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OF A FAMOUS SLUGGER

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AT OF CHAMPIONS

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

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Lou Gehrig
1944 AMERICAN LEAGUE
BATTING CHAMPION



"Dixie" Mottet
1944 NATIONAL LEAGUE
BATTING CHAMPION



FAMOUS SLUGGERS



KEEP THOSE BONDS

1945 Famous Slugger Year Book

Feature Articles

THOUGHTS ON BATTING.....by Tris Speaker

MY BATS.....by Babe Ruth

HOW LOUISVILLE SLUGGERS ARE MADE

TIPS ON BATTING by

Lou Boudreau

Bill Nicholson

George McQuinn

Ty Cobb

Dixie Walker

Bob Doerr

Nap Lajoie

Eddie Collins

Roger Cramer

George Stinneweiss

SHADOWING THE PLATE SINCE '84

- 1944 Batting Champions • Swing Speed • Batting Records
- Louisville Slugger Trophy Winners • Pictures of Famous Sluggers • Louisville Slugger Bats • World Series Records.

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WHEN I GET BIG

Yes, young man, thousands of boys like yourself are growing up all over the world. To be sure, some of you will become baseball players, pilots, firemen, doctors, architects, etc. Regardless of your future profession you will be a better citizen for having played baseball.

We, of the Hillerich and Bradsby Company, are proud of the part we are playing in building sound minds and healthy bodies through our contribution to the great American game - baseball.

HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.
LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY



Amman's Slugger Records

AMERICAN LEAGUE BATTING LEADERS

1900 to 1944 Inclusive

American League Batting Champions, 1900 to 1944 inclusive, have played in an average of 140 games per season and have averaged 198 hits. The average of their batting percentages is .37397.

Year	Player and Club	Games	Hits	Pct.
1944	Bondreau, Cleveland	150	191	.32705
1943	Appling, Chicago	155	192	.32821
1942	Williams, Boston	150	186	.35632
1941	Williams, Boston	143	185	.40570
1940	DiMaggio, New York	182	179	.35236
1939	DiMaggio, New York	120	176	.33095
1938	Fox, Boston	149	197	.34867
1937	Gehringer, Detroit	144	209	.37057
1936	Appling, Chicago	138	204	.38783
1935	Meyer, Washington	151	215	.34903
1934	Gehrig, New York	154	210	.36254
1933	Fox, Philadelphia	149	204	.35602
1932	Alexander, Detroit-Boston	124	144	.36735
1931	Simmons, Philadelphia	128	200	.38984
1930	Simmons, Philadelphia	138	211	.38087
1929	Fonseca, Cleveland	148	209	.36943
1928	Goslin, Washington	135	173	.37838
1927	Heilmann, Detroit	141	201	.39302
1926	Mannish, Detroit	136	188	.37751
1925	Heilmann, Detroit	150	225	.39267
1924	Ruth, New York	153	200	.37807
1923	Heilmann, Detroit	144	211	.40267
1922	Sisler, St. Louis	142	246	.41979
1921	Heilmann, Detroit	149	237	.39369
1920	Sisler, St. Louis	154	257	.40729
1919	Cobb, Detroit	124	191	.38431
1918	Cobb, Detroit	111	161	.38243
1917	Cobb, Detroit	152	225	.38265
1916	Speaker, Cleveland	151	211	.38645
1915	Cobb, Detroit	156	208	.36945
1914	Cobb, Detroit	97	127	.36811
1913	Cobb, Detroit	122	167	.39019
1912	Cobb, Detroit	140	227	.41049
1911	Cobb, Detroit	146	248	.41963
1910	Cobb, Detroit	140	196	.38507
1909	Cobb, Detroit	156	216	.37696
1908	Cobb, Detroit	150	188	.32358
1907	Cobb, Detroit	150	212	.35041
1906	Stone, St. Louis	154	208	.35800
1905	Flick, Cleveland	181	152	.30665
1904	Lajoie, Cleveland	140	211	.38087
1903	Lajoie, Cleveland	126	173	.35451
1902	E. J. Delahanty, Washington	123	178	.37553
1901	Lajoie, Philadelphia	131	220	.40516
1900	Dunagan, Kansas City	117	158	.33689

Boost your batting average in the War Stamp League

Lou Bondreau

American League Batting Champion for 1944



Lou Bondreau

Lou Bondreau, able young playing manager of the Cleveland Indians, won the 1944 American League batting championship with a .327 percentage.

The cares that go with

managing a Major League club apparently had no damaging effect on Lou's fielding, either, for his .978 fielding percentage broke the league's record for shortstops and he set a new Major League record for double plays at short with 134.

A Tip on Batting from Lou

My suggestions to youngsters on batting are: first, choose a Louisville Slugger which has proper weight and length, and, second, do not try to copy someone else in assuming the right stance. Each individual has a different stance. After you have found a comfortable stance, keep to it, be relaxed, and try to meet the ball squarely. When you have mastered relaxation at the plate and are meeting the ball properly, you may then add variations to the stance, suitable to different types of pitching.



Bob Johnson
of Boston batted .324—third highest in the A. L.

you have found a comfortable stance, keep to it, be relaxed, and try to meet the ball squarely. When you have mastered relaxation at the plate and are meeting the ball properly, you may then add variations to the stance, suitable to different types of pitching.

Glammis Slugger Records

National League Batting Champions 1876 to 1944, Inclusive

National League Batting Champions, 1900 to 1944 inclusive, have played in an average of 139 games per season and have averaged 192 hits. The average of their batting percentages is .36145.

Year	Player and Club	Games	Hits	Pct.
1944	Walker, Brooklyn	147	191	.35700
1943	Musial, St. Louis	157	220	.35656
1942	Lombardi, Boston	105	102	.33009
1941	Reiser, Brooklyn	137	184	.34328
1940	Garns, Pittsburgh	103	127	.35475
1939	Mize, St. Louis	153	197	.34929
1938	Lombardi, Cincinnati	129	167	.34172
1937	Medwick, St. Louis	156	237	.37441
1936	P. Waner, Pittsburgh	148	218	.37265
1935	Vaughan, Pittsburgh	137	192	.38479
1934	P. Waner, Pittsburgh	146	217	.36227
1933	Klein, Philadelphia	152	223	.36799
1932	O'Doul, Brooklyn	148	219	.36807
1931	Hafey, St. Louis	122	157	.34888
1930	Terry, New York	153	213	.34861
1929	O'Doul, Philadelphia	154	224	.40126
1928	Hornsbly, Boston	140	254	.39812
1927	P. Waner, Pittsburgh	145	188	.38683
1926	Hartrave, Cincinnati	106	237	.38010
1925	Hornsbly, St. Louis	138	203	.35276
1924	Hornsbly, St. Louis	143	227	.40278
1923	Hornsbly, St. Louis	107	163	.42351
1922	Hornsbly, St. Louis	154	250	.38443
1921	Hornsbly, St. Louis	164	260	.40128
1920	Hornsbly, St. Louis	149	235	.39636
1919	Roush, Cincinnati	133	218	.37012
1918	Wheat, Brooklyn	105	162	.32143
1917	Roush, Cincinnati	136	137	.33495
1916	Chase, Cincinnati	142	178	.34100
1915	Doyle, New York	150	184	.33948
1914	Daubert, Brooklyn	126	189	.31980
1913	Daubert, Brooklyn	139	156	.32911
1912	Zimmerman, Chicago	145	207	.35039
1911	Wagner, Pittsburgh	130	207	.37163
1910	Magee, Philadelphia	154	168	.38404
1909	Wagner, Pittsburgh	137	172	.38141
1908	Wagner, Pittsburgh	151	168	.33939
1907	Wagner, Pittsburgh	142	201	.34951
1906	Wagner, Pittsburgh	140	180	.34951
1905	Seymour, Cincinnati	149	175	.35387
1904	Wagner, Pittsburgh	132	219	.37694
1903	Wagner, Pittsburgh	129	171	.34892
1902	Beaumont, Pittsburgh	181	182	.35547
1901	Burkett, St. Louis	142	194	.36662
1900	Wagner, Pittsburgh	134	228	.38191
			201	.38063

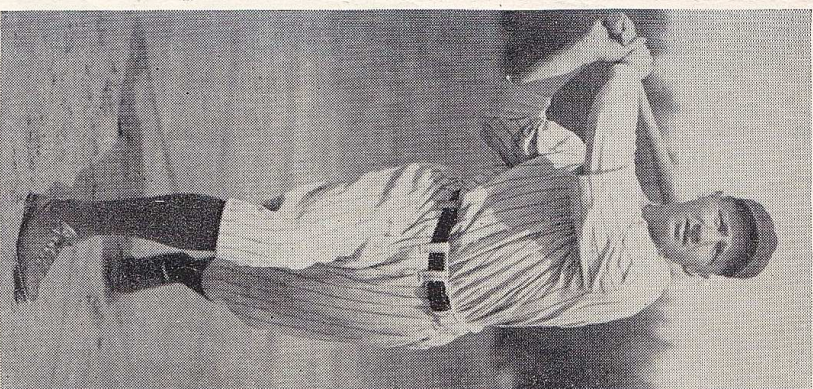
(Continued on Page 52)

FRED "DIXIE" WALKER Won National League Batting Title with .357

Veteran outfielder, Dixie Walker, of Brooklyn, slugged hard and often in 1944 to become the National League's 69th annual batting champion.

Dixie, a great favorite with Dodger fans, was out in front in the batting race most of the season and finished with a fine .357 average—the same figure which gave Stan Musial the 1943 crown. Musial ran second to Walker with .347.

Thanks to his brilliant batting performance last season, Walker was voted "Player of The Year" by the New York Sports Writers Association and entered baseball's select group of hitters—those with lifetime Major League averages of over .300—having boosted his career mark to .305.



DIXIE WALKER

"First Learn to Just Hit the Ball," is Dixie Walker's Batting Tip

To every young ball player my advice on batting is—*start out trying to just hit the ball*. Don't be concerned about what direction it goes in or how far. At first swing easily and freely. As you learn to get the wood on the ball you will, without being conscious of it, start driving the ball in the right direction. Distance hitting will come also as you grow stronger and your timing improves.

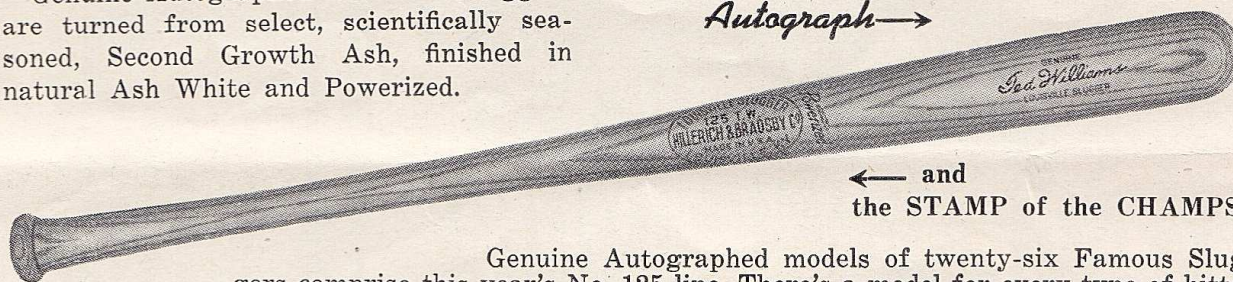
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

Autographed
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER
HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.
LOUISVILLE, KY.
BASEBALL BATS

No. 125

Genuine Autographed Louisville Sluggers are turned from select, scientifically seasoned, Second Growth Ash, finished in natural Ash White and Powerized.

Look for the Genuine
Autograph →



← and
the STAMP of the CHAMPS

Genuine Autographed models of twenty-six Famous Sluggers comprise this year's No. 125 line. There's a model for every type of hitter—select the one best suited to your requirements.

- 125LB—Lou Boudreau. Medium long, medium sized barrel tapered to small handle; large knob.
- 125JC—Joe Cronin. Long, small barrel with straight taper to medium small handle; small knob.
- 125BD—Bill Dickey. Medium long, very large barrel with slight taper to medium handle; small knob.
- 125JD—Joe DiMaggio. Long, large barrel with gradual taper to medium small handle; small knob.
- 125RD—Bob Doerr. Medium large barrel with long taper to very small handle; large knob.
- 125JF—Jimmie Foxx. Medium long, medium large barrel tapered to very small handle; large knob.
- 125LG—Lou Gehrig. Very large, medium long barrel tapered to medium handle; small knob.
- 125CG—Chas. Gehringer. Long, medium sized barrel tapering to large handle; small knob.
- 125JG—Joe Gordon. Very large, short length barrel tapering to very small handle; large knob.
- 125HG—Hank Greenberg. Very long, very small barrel with medium handle; large knob.
- 125—Heine Groh. The "Bottle bat"—long, extra large barrel with abrupt taper to very small handle; small knob.

- 125SH—Stanley C. Hack. Medium size barrel of medium length, tapering gradually to small handle; large knob.
- 125RH—Rogers Hornsby. Barrel very large and medium long, tapered to medium handle; medium knob.
- 125JJ—Joe Jackson. Very long, very small barrel with slight taper to very large handle; medium knob.
- 125KEL—Charlie Keller. Very large, medium length barrel tapered to medium handle; medium knob.
- 125EL—Ernest Lombardi. Short length barrel, but very large, tapered to very small handle; large knob.
- 125DM—Joe "Ducky" Medwick. Medium large barrel of medium length, tapered to very small handle; large knob.
- 125JM—Johnny Mize. Medium barrel with medium length hitting space and small handle; large knob.
- 125SM—Stan Musial. Barrel of medium length and medium large size tapering to very small handle; large knob.
- 125MO—Melvin Ott. Barrel medium large with long taper to very small handle; large knob.
- 125ER—Edd J. Roush. Long, medium large barrel with large handle; small knob.
- 125BR—George "Babe" Ruth. Medium large, moderately short barrel with long taper to very small handle; large knob.
- 125—"Buddy" Ryan. Long, medium sized barrel tapered to large handle; medium knob.
- 125ES—Enos Slaughter. Large, medium length barrel tapering to small handle; large knob.
- 125TW—Ted Williams. Medium large barrel with medium length hitting surface and very small handle; large knob.
- 125RY—Rudolph York. Barrel of medium size and length, tapering to small handle; large knob.

<i>Lou Boudreau</i>	<i>Jimmie Foxx</i>	<i>Heine Groh.</i>	<i>Ernest Lombardi</i>	<i>Edd J. Roush</i>
<i>Joe Cronin</i>	<i>Lou Gehrig</i>	<i>Stanley C. Hack</i>	<i>Joe "Ducky" Medwick</i>	<i>George "Babe" Ruth</i>
<i>Bill Dickey</i>	<i>Chas. Gehringer</i>	<i>Rogers Hornsby</i>	<i>Johnny Mize</i>	<i>Enos Slaughter</i>
<i>Joe DiMaggio</i>	<i>Joe L. Gordon</i>	<i>Charlie Keller</i>	<i>Stan Musial</i>	<i>Ted Williams</i>
<i>Bob Doerr</i>	<i>"Hank" Greenberg</i>		<i>Melvin Ott</i>	<i>Rudolph York</i>



Users of Louisville Sluggers are Members of Baseball's Hall of Fame

THE IMPORTANCE OF Swing Speed TO SUCCESSFUL HITTING

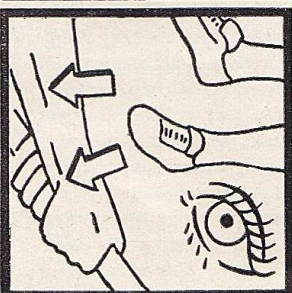
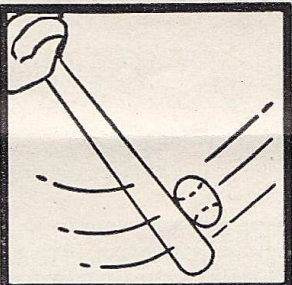
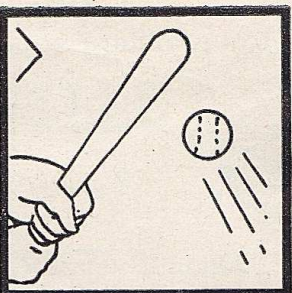
34 INCHES CONSIDERED BEST BAT LENGTH

The rules of baseball change very little but the game itself is changing every year. The pace gets swifter—competition gets keener. The "live" ball started the trend. Constant changes in pitching styles add to the speed of the game.

Hillierich & Bradshy Co. are doing their part in producing the finest bats possible for America's favorite sport. The recognition of Swing-Speed as one of the most important features in batting has enabled us to make Louisville Slugger bats better for you. Harder wood of denser grain can be used in Louisville Sluggers measuring 34" in length which scientific study has found is the length bat that has the greatest Swing-Speed.

Remember, behind every champion is championship form. A shorter length bat allows a hitter to wait longer on the pitch, which gives an additional fraction of a second to wait out the break of the ball. This is important, for it means that there is no wasted energy and little movement until the ball is hit.

Many fair ball players of yesterday are becoming the really great hitters of today because they are using a shorter Louisville Slugger that has a faster Swing-Speed and really fits them. Here are some facts on Swing-Speed and how it can improve any player's batting average.



Ball Travels 100 m.p.h. Bat Swings at 200 m.p.h.

The better fast ball pitchers throw at airplane speed. So, to connect with a fast-pitched ball, a batter must swing just as fast. The ball itself is traveling 100 m.p.h. reaches the plate and is met by a Louisville Slugger traveling 200 m.p.h.—something has to happen!

Impact Flattens Ball

Super-speed cameras prove that a baseball actually flattens out when it meets the air. Imagine the terrific strain on the bat at impact. Only a tough, well-seasoned piece of wood such as that used in Louisville Slugger bats could stand that kind of punishment time and time again!

What Makes A Good Hitter?

Many of the leading hitters of today and yesterday have relied on shorter bats to produce better batting records, proving that success at the plate depends on a properly balanced bat of suitable weight for the individual—plus, of course, timing, fast wrist action and forearm control, along with good eyesight and equal weight distribution at the moment of impact.

(Continued on Page 42)

Thoughts on Batting

by TRIS SPEAKER
Member of Baseball's Hall of Fame



TRIS SPEAKER

In this article Tris Speaker confides to young ball players bits of batting knowledge which he used so effectively. We supplied only the title, "Thoughts on Batting," and the subheadings.

Speaker's superb ability as a hitter is attested by his .344 batting percentage over 22 Major League years. He is even more famous as a centerfielder—for his unsurpassed all-round play at that position.

This Speaker

503 N.B.C. Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio
December 26, 1944

To Young Ball Players:

I have been asked to give a few pointers or suggestions on batting, which I shall endeavor to do in the following article. As is only natural, the things I recommend to you are based on what I found beneficial in my own experience.

In my opinion, the most important thing to good batting is to have a strong setup. A strong setup is

Regarding Position at Plate

In my opinion, the most important thing to good batting is to take a *natural* position at the plate. Your natural position is the one in which you feel comfortable, well-balanced, and free to swing at any pitch in the strike zone—that is, over the plate and from shoulder to knee. This is absolutely necessary, for smart pitchers are constantly endeavoring to find some weakness in each batter's position at the plate.

Obviously, there is no standard pattern of position that is natural for *all* batters. There is no better proof of this than the case of Joe DiMaggio, who evidently feels natural with a stance far wider than that of nearly every other really fine hitter. The

THOUGHTS ON BATTING—by Tris Speaker

fact that he is one of the few great hitters who have succeeded with an exceptional position is the reason I ask you to be natural at the plate. You, too, might become a great hitter even with a very wide stance or some other seeming fault.

Timing for Placing Hits

Some of the greatest batters the game has known used and recommend a different stance for hitting to each field. Yet I used the same stance at all times, and found adjusting the timing of my swing—hitting early or late—the more effective means of placing hits in the various directions.

Being a lefthander, when aiming for left field I would merely start my swing and stride a trifle late. I tried to meet the ball squarely just after it passed that point directly out from the center of my body which, for want of a better term, I shall refer to as the swing's apex. Whenever right field was the goal, I started the swing early, catching the ball a trifle before it reached the apex. For hitting in the general direction of center, action was timed so that my Slugger came in contact with the ball at the precise moment it reached the apex. If your stance and position are proper, inside and outside pitches alike can be handled equally well in this manner.

Tris Speaker



It Can Be Done

To successfully employ the means I recommend for place hitting, your sense of timing must first be highly developed and then carefully maintained. This takes a lot of practice, and I might cite one particular case where a player, through hard work, mastered the art after he became a major leaguer. The case is that of Joe Sewell. I brought him to Cleveland in 1920 to play shortstop, taking the place of Ray Chapman, whose untimely death that year was caused by a pitched ball. When Sewell came to me, he was a very weak hitter against lefthanded pitching, and especially a lefthander's curve ball. But with great determination and constant practice he became one of the most dangerous batters against lefthanded curve ball pitching I have ever known.

THOUGHTS ON BATTING—by Tris Speaker

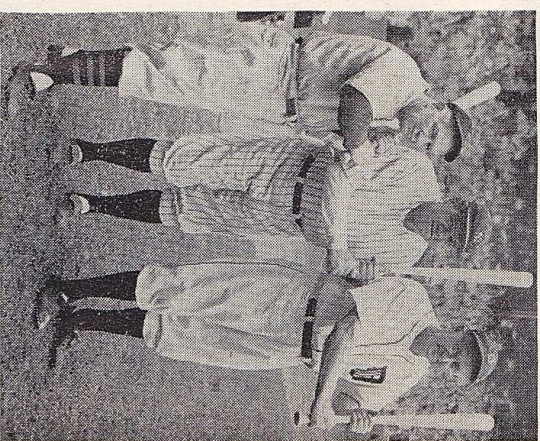
Sewell went to the ball park every morning early, after having first rounded up all the lefthanded youngsters in the neighborhood, and would go out of his way to find those who could throw curves. He would then stand in the corner of the field and practice batting for hours. He finally reached the stage of perfection, and the records will show that he developed into a great hitter and a batter who was harder to pitch to than almost any other, as he seldom hit the bad pitches. I believe that the record will show, too, that Joe struck out fewer times than any other batter during the same period of years in the majors.

The same constant practice and determination by any and all batters, right or lefthand, will certainly produce results.

Watch and Profit From What You Learn

It is well to study the pitcher and catcher while you are on the bench waiting for your turn at bat. You will often find that one of them or maybe an outfielder or infielder will tip off the pitch to be made with some slight definite movement. Should you detect such movements and then be able to ascertain which motion signifies a fast ball, which a curve, etc., batting will become almost the same as batting practice, when you are asking the pitcher to throw the different kinds of balls. This is not called "guess batting"—you really know what you are doing.

Bear in mind at all times that there is a certain pitch that you prefer over others, and that the pitcher must have uncanny control to pitch ball after ball in a zone that you do not like. As he must get three strikes by before you can be called out, you have three pitches from which to choose, and you are almost sure to get one you desire. When that one does come across, you should be able to hit it safely in most instances, especially if you have been able to detect in advance a tip-off of when it is coming.



A Truly Great Outfield

Left to right: Tris Speaker, Babe Ruth, and Ty Cobb, all members of Baseball's Hall of Fame. This picture was taken at the dedication of the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown—years after their playing days were over.

THOUGHTS ON BATTING—by Tris Speaker

I chose to stand not more than six inches from the plate and in the extreme rear end of the batter's box. Here, with arms always away from the body, I was able to take advantage of any breaking ball, and, more especially, a curve ball.

Always watch the movements of infielders, particularly when a runner is on first with one man out, or even with two out. Notice whether they move toward the right side, expecting you to hit to right field, or vice versa. If you find them playing you in a definitely fixed position, hit to or through the least defended spot. To take advantage of such situations, you of course must be able to hit reasonably close to where you aim. That is why I stress the value of precision hitting.

Others Can Help You

As far back as my amateur days I found that there was always someone on the team willing to help me with my batting. I would ask whomever it happened to be to watch me closely when I was in a good hitting streak, so as to get a mental picture of my position at the plate, and particularly my stride. After that, whenever I would go into a slump, the same observer would point out the thing I was doing wrong.

(Continued on Page 13)

Tris Speaker

Born April 4, 1888, at Hubbard City, Texas. Height, 5.11½. Weight, 193. Threw and batted left-handed. Used Louisville Sluggers exclusively.

Manager, Cleveland Indians, July 20, 1919, until December 2, 1926. Manager, Newark, International League, 1929, until June 26, 1930, when he resigned.

Outstanding performances—Played 100 or more games 19 consecutive years; connected for most two-base hits, American League, 793; made 35 assists (league record), as outfielder, 1909 and 1912; made two unassisted double plays, season, April 18 and 29, 1918; made 11 hits in succession, July 8, 9, 10, 1920. Led league in batting, 1916; most hits, 1914 and 1916; doubles, 1912-14-18-20-21-22 and 1923, and tied in 1916; most total bases, 1914; tied for lead most runs batted in, 1923. Led league outfielders in putouts, 1909-10-13-14-15-18 and 1919; most assists in 1909-12 and 1913, and tied in 1914. World's Series—Made two triples in 1912, one in 1915 and one in 1920. Received Chalmers Award (automobile) for being named the American League's Most Valuable Player in 1912. Elected to Hall of Fame in 1937.

	Years	Games	At Bat	Runs	Hits	Home Bat'tg
Major League Batting Record-----	22	2789	10208	1881	3515	115 .344
World Series Batting Record-----	3	20	72	12	22	0 .306

THOUGHTS ON BATTING—by Tris Speaker

Slumps—Causes and How to Overcome Them

I found that most batting slumps come from over-swinging and over-striding. If you swing too hard you upset your sense of timing, and if your stride is too long you are able to apply but little of your power. So when you find yourself in a slump, shorten up your stride and cut down also on your swing. There are a few great hitters whose stance is very wide at the plate, but when they stride that step is very short. Calling up Joe DiMaggio as an example again, he has a very wide stance, and yet when he swings into the ball his stride amounts to a step of but about three inches.

Summary

While there are many things to talk about in the science of batting, the subject is so thoroughly covered in Ty Cobb's article, "Science of Batting" (see page 34), that it would be difficult for me to give many other pointers without repeating Ty, the greatest ball player of all time.

I trust that these few pointers will be of value to some young ball player who has the ambition to reach major league heights. One final word is that I very religiously recommend that you use a Louisville Slugger bat, which was my favorite during my twenty-two years in the major leagues. My personal model was 34½ inches long and weighed approximately 40 ounces.

40 ounces. 34½ inches long and weighed approximately 40 ounces.

I wish to thank the officials of Hillierich & Bradsby for offering me this opportunity to pass the information along. Wishing you youngsters much success in this great sport of ours, I am

Sincerely yours,

Tris Speaker

SHADOWING THE PLATE SINCE '84

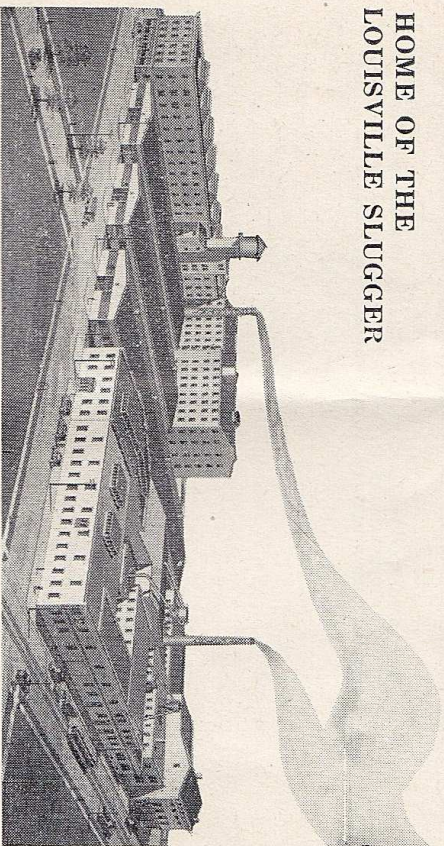
More than sixty years ago the Louisville Slugger bat first cast its shadow over the plate, and today it shares every great batting record established in organized baseball.

The early history of the Slugger, strangely enough, is quite unlike the beginnings of most success stories. Like many others, its start was in humble surroundings—but all parallel ends there. For the maker was literally launched on a career he neither planned nor dreamed of, and his first customers were the outstanding Major Leaguers of that era.

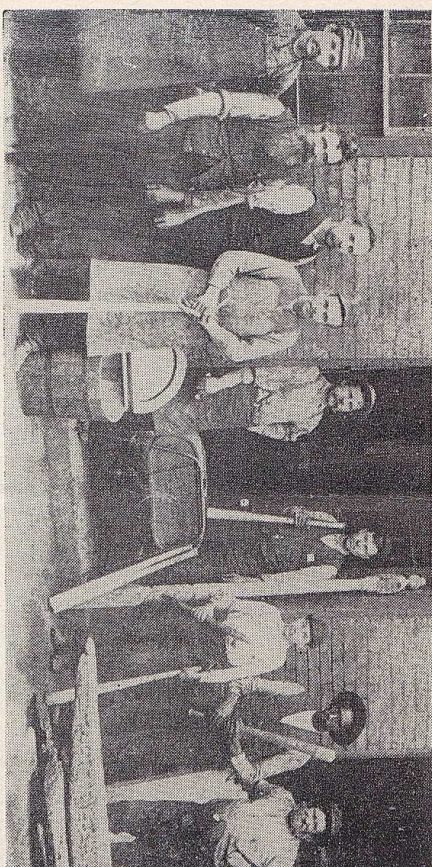
The first of all Sluggers was turned by teen-aged Bud Hillerich in his father's small woodworking shop for Pete Brown-ing, the great slugger who was then pastiming for Louisville's National League Club. Pete personally supervised the job, and his satisfaction and performance with the first bat and others patterned after it soon brought orders from players throughout baseball.

A few of the famous hitters who used Sluggers before the turn of the century were Adrian "Pop" Anson, Jesse Burkett, Billy Hamilton, Dan Brubbers, Willie Keeler, Hugh Duffy (whose batting average of .438 in 1894 is the highest on record), John McGraw, Ed Delahanty (the only player ever to win a batting championship in both the American and the National League), and Honus Wagner (whose model was the first to be autographed).

HOME OF THE LOUISVILLE SLUGGER



14



THE FIRST BAT FACTORY

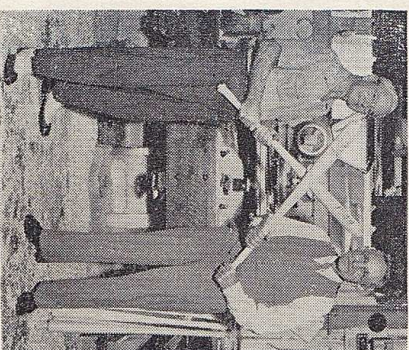
Standing at the right of the door, inside, is J. A. "Bud" Hillerich, now President of the Hillerich & Bradsby Company. At the extreme left is H. W. Bickel, continuously with the firm until 1943 when he retired, and on Mr. Bickel's left is J. F. Hillerich, founder of the firm. This picture was made in 1884. See caption to picture below.

These early greats were followed by Cobb, Collins, Speaker, Sisler, Hornsby, Ruth, Gehrig, DiMaggio, Williams, and all other champions down to Lou Boudreau and Dixie Walker, 1944 champions of the American and National Leagues, respectively.

Having started out making bats for Baseball's best, maintaining top position has ever been a challenge to H. & B. bat makers down through the years. They have succeeded admirably, and largely through superb teamwork between the outside contact men and those at the lathes. The Company's contact men keep constantly in touch with the players themselves, gathering their criticisms and suggestions and then passing these demands along to the factory, where instructions are diligently carried out.

In June 1944 Mr. Hillerich and Mr. Bickel both celebrated the Slugger's sixtieth anniversary by turning a bat. At right—The two old timers show their wares.

(Continued on Page 16)

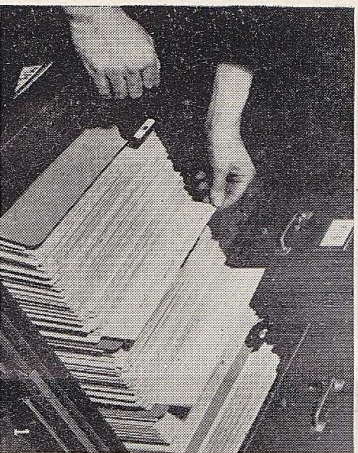


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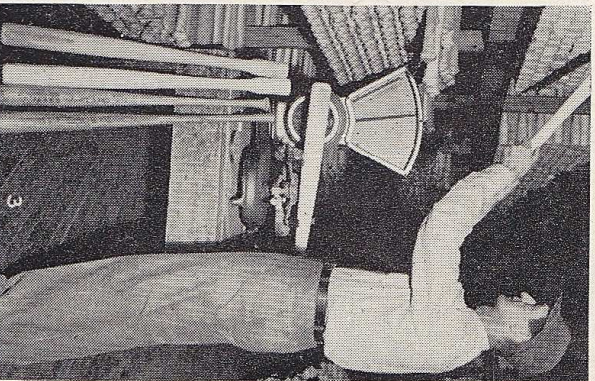
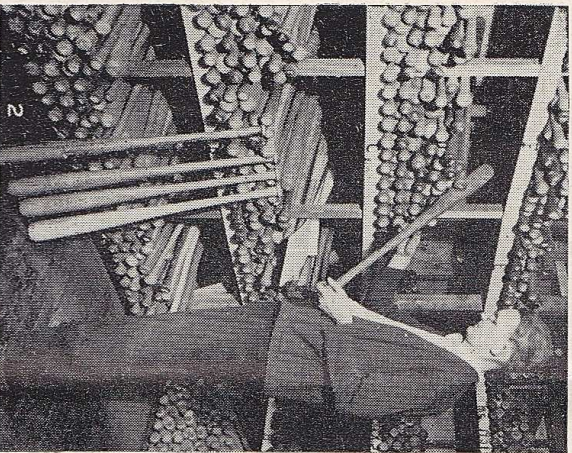
(Continued From Page 15)

Since our country was attacked at Pearl Harbor, many hundreds of thousands of Louisville Slugger baseball and softball bats have been shipped and are being shipped to our fighting men everywhere. For excellence in the production of bats and stocks for the Army's carbine, the Army-Navy "E" Award Flag was hoisted over the factory August 3, 1944.

Pictures of special operations required on pro ball players' personal models and any other bats that require special manufacture are shown below and on the opposite page.

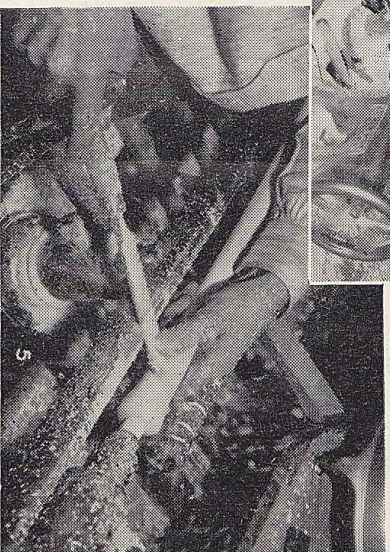


1. Orders for special models from players in Organized Baseball are recorded immediately in files at factory.
2. Special order then goes to "Bat Archives," where original of model specified is gotten out. All original models back to 1910 are in this room.
3. Selecting "roughouts" for special models. As each bat when finished must weigh within a small fraction of an ounce of the weight specified, this man must know exactly which pieces are suitable for each particular model.



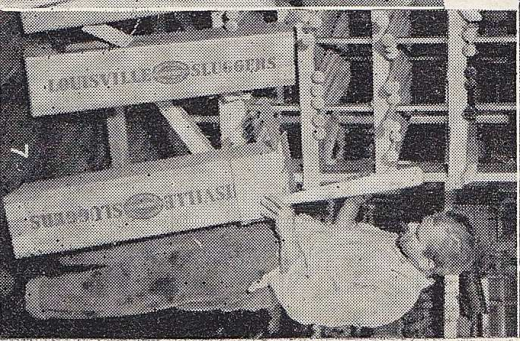
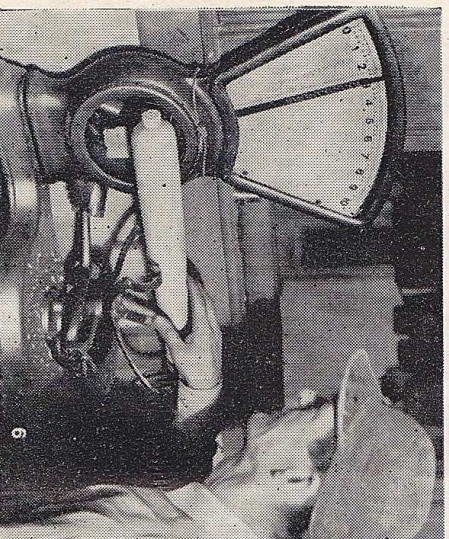
4. Special model is about to be turned on hand lathe. When finished, diameter of new bat must measure of same as original model from end to end.

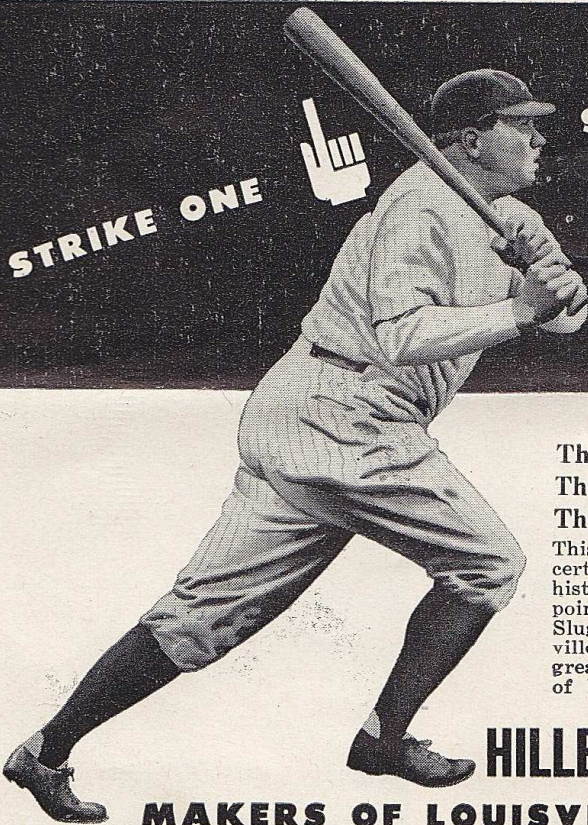
5. Close-up of knob of Dixie Walker's model being shaped up. There are several kinds of knobs; Dixie's is known at the factory as the "old mush-knob."






6. Down to size and shape, bat is weighed. When "ends" are cut off and bat is sanded, it will be the exact weight specified—16 ounces.

7. Final inspection and packing of special models on short orders.





STRIKE ONE  **STRIKE TWO**  **— THEN**

OVER THE FENCE 

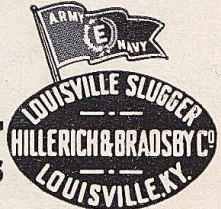
WITH HIS
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

The Player—"Babe" Ruth, New York Yankees.
The Time—3rd game 1932 World Series.
The Place—Wrigley Field, Chicago.

This was the setting for one of Baseball's greatest thrills—certainly the most brazen and defiant gesture in the game's history. Having taken two deliberate strikes, the great Ruth pointed to a distant part of the field, then with his Louisville Slugger crashed a terrific homer to that very spot. Louisville Sluggers have helped to furnish every great batting thrill and share every one of Baseball's batting records.

HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.

MAKERS OF LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BATS



My Bat by *George "Babe" Ruth*

MEMBER OF BASEBALL'S HALL OF FAME

Baseball's greatest home run hitter—hit 714 during his 22-year Major League career, and had a lifetime batting average of .342.

After thinking back to my playing days, it seems that when it came to batting about the only thing I gave any particular attention to was the bat itself. Blessed with strength, two good eyes, and, I guess, a pretty fair share of natural ability for baseball, the bat was the one other thing I needed, and it had to be right.

Since I gave bats quite a bit of thought, you might profit from an account of my experiences and the opinions they left with me.

In my first three years as a fielder, following five or six years of pitching, I used bats 36 inches long and anywhere from 40 up to 54 ounces in weight. I then began experimenting with the length, and found out what I should have known all along—that I could do better with a shorter bat. So I switched to 35 inches and sometimes slightly less in the twelve or thirteen years that followed.

I continued to use heavy bats, though, and never went to anything lighter than 40 ounces until my last two years, when it dropped to 37 and 38 ounces.

Going to the shorter bat was one of my best moves, and I have wondered many times since why any player would bother with swinging a stick an inch or two longer than was absolutely necessary.

My idea on weight is that you should use a bat as heavy as you can handle. If you can swing a bat weighing, say, 38 ounces as fast as one weighing 35 ounces, you're bound to get a longer hit. What's more, you get real solid timber in the heavier bats, and that, too, adds to driving power.

I learned recently that according to the records of Hillerich & Bradsby, who made every bat I ever used, more Louisville Sluggers were made up for my personal use than for any other single player. That no doubt is true. However, compared with most other players I really broke very few, all because mine were heavier and could stand a lot more punishment. I gave away dozens of bats each season to friends as souvenirs.

As I have said, bats were always important to me, and it is no wonder that I like to recommend Louisville Sluggers every chance I get. Every hit and every hitting record to my credit speaks for the oval Slugger trademark.

BABE RUTH'S HOME RUN RECORD, 60 IN 1927

Homer	Date	Opposing Pitcher and Club	Where Made	Homer	Date	Opposing Pitcher and Club	Where Made
1.	Apr.	Ehmanke, Phila.	New York	31.	24	Thomas, Chicago	Chicago
2.	15	Walberg, Phila.	Phila.	32.	26	Gaston, St. Louis	New York
3.	23	Thurston, Wash.	Wash.	33.	26	Gaston, St. Louis	New York
4.	29	Harris, Boston	Boston	34.	28	Stewart, St. Louis	New York
May				Aug.			
5.	1	Quinn, Phila.	New York	35.	5	G. Smith, Det.	New York
6.	15	Walberg, Phila.	New York	36.	10	Zachary, Wash.	Wash.
7.	10	Gaston, St. Louis	St. Louis	37.	16	Thomas, Chicago	Chicago
8.	11	Nevers, St. Louis	St. Louis	38.	17	Cennally, Chicago	Chicago
9.	17	Collins, Detroit	Detroit	39.	20	Miller, Cleve.	Cleve.
10.	22	Kerr, Cleve.	Cleve.	40.	22	Shante, Cleve.	Cleve.
11.	23	Thurston, Wash.	Wash.	41.	27	Nevers, St. Louis	St. Louis
12.	28	MacFayden, Bos.	New York	42.	28	Wingard, St. Louis	St. Louis
13.	30	Walberg, Phila.	Phila.	43.	31	Welzer, Boston	New York
14.	31	Shmke, Phila.	Phila.				
15.	31	Quinn, Phila.	Phila.				
June				Sept.			
17.	5	Whitehill, Det.	New York	44.	2	Walberg, Phila.	Phila.
18.	7	Thomas, Chicago	New York	45.	6	Welzer, Boston	Boston
19.	11	Buckeye, Cleve.	New York	46.	6	Welzer, Boston	Boston
20.	11	Buckeye, Cleve.	New York	47.	6	Russell, Boston	Boston
21.	12	Uhl, Cleve.	New York	48.	7	MacFayden, Boston	Boston
22.	16	Zachary, St. Louis	New York	49.	7	Harris, Boston	Boston
23.	22	Wills, Boston	Boston	50.	11	Gaston, St. Louis	New York
24.	22	Wills, Boston	Boston	51.	13	Hudlin, Cleve.	New York
25.	30	Harris, Boston	New York	52.	13	Shante, Cleve.	New York
July				53.	16	Blankenship, Chi.	New York
26.	3	Lisenbee, Wash.	Wash.	54.	18	Lyons, Chicago	New York
27.	8	Whitehill, Det.	Detroit	55.	21	Gibson, Detroit	New York
28.	9	Holloway, Det.	Detroit	56.	22	Holloway, Detroit	New York
29.	9	Holloway, Det.	Detroit	57.	27	Grove, Phila.	New York
30.	12	Shante, Cleve.	Cleve.	58.	29	Lisenbee, Wash.	New York
				59.	29	Hopkins, Wash.	New York
				60.	30	Zachary, Wash.	New York
Most Home Runs, League							
National—Melvin T. Ott, New York			489				
American—George H. Ruth, Boston-New York			708				
Most Three-Base Hits, League							
National—John P. Warner, Louisville-Pittsburgh			262				
American—Tyms R. Cobb, Detroit-Philadelphia			297				
Most Two-Base Hits, League							
National—John P. Warner, Louisville-Pittsburgh			651				
American—Trio Speaker, Boston, Cleveland, Washington, Philadelphia			797				
Most One-Base Hits, League							
National—John P. Warner, Louisville-Pittsburgh			2,426				
American—Tyms R. Cobb, Detroit-Philadelphia			2,052				

20

Home Run Derby of 1944

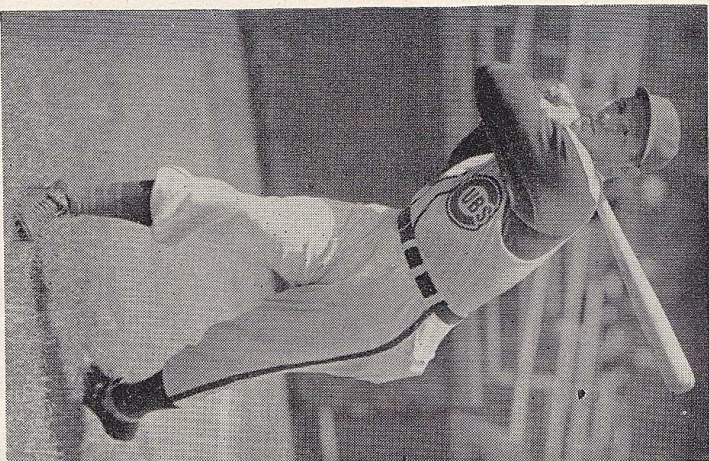
Bill Nicholson Won By Decisive Margin

Pitchers found Bill Nicholson's Louisville Slugger more damaging than ever in 1944, for with it the Chicago Cub outfielder won these distinctions:

Led Major Leagues in home runs (33), and National League second straight year in this department. Led League in runs scored (116), total bases (317), and for second straight year in runs batted in (122). Tied Major League record, hitting 4 home runs in 4 consecutive times at bat.

A Batting Tip From Bill Nicholson

With my batting style and swing, the tendency to slug comes naturally. I have always felt that if you can meet the ball squarely, the faster you swing the better. So whenever I see a good pitch coming, I try and level on it with all the swing speed at my command.



Bill Nicholson

PLAYERS WHO HIT 15 OR MORE HOME RUNS

Player	Club	Home Runs
Bill Nicholson	Chicago Cubs	33
Mel Ott	New York Giants	26
Nick Etten	New York Yankees	22
Bern Stephens	Philadelphia Blue Jays	22
Vern Stephens	St. Louis Browns	22
"Whitney" Kuroski	St. Louis Cardinals	20
Frank McCormick	Cincinnati Reds	20
Rudy York	Detroit Tigers	18
Stan Spence	Washington Nationals	18
"Buster" Adams	New York Yankees	17
Bob Johnson	Boston Red Sox	17
Roy Collepigne	Cleveland Indians	16
Burch Neman	Boston Braves	16
Dan Litwiler	St. Louis Cardinals	15
Bob Doerr	Boston Red Sox	15
"Pat" Seery	Cleveland Indians	15

21

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

MODEL 125S SPECIAL



Quality and finish identical to No. 125 but turned to slightly smaller dimensions for College and High School hitters. Listed below are Genuine Autographed models regularly stocked.

125JDS—Joe DiMaggio Special
125JFS—Jimmie Foxx Special
125LGS—Lou Gehrig Special
125JGS—Joe Gordon Special

125DMS—"Ducky" Medwick Special
125MOS—Mel Ott Special
125BRS—"Babe" Ruth Special
125TWS—Ted Williams Special

The widely diversified assortment of models offered in the Louisville Slugger baseball bat line includes a model to fit the particular needs of each type of hitter

NO. 125J LOUISVILLE SLUGGER JUNIOR



Genuine Autographed model for boys and young men. Natural Ash White finish—same as full sized Model No. 125 (see pages 6 and 7), and turned from fine grade of Second Growth Ash. Available in four Famous Sluggers' models: Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams, Jimmie Foxx, and Johnny Mize.

LOUISVILLE SLUGGERS are sold through recognized Sporting Goods Dealers everywhere. Your Dealer will be pleased to help you in making your selection of a LOUISVILLE SLUGGER baseball bat or LOUISVILLE SLUGGER softball bat.

The Stamp



of the Champs

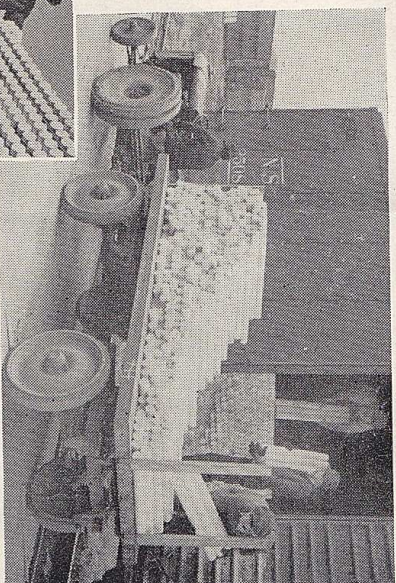
How Louisville Sluggers Are Made IN PICTURES

On this and the following pages are pictured a number of the many operations necessary in the production of Louisville Slugger baseball bats and softball bats.

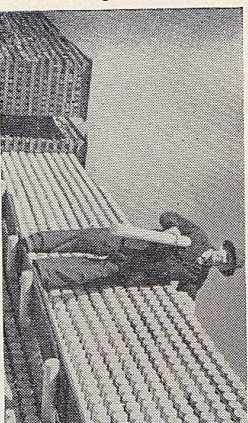
Needless to say, no amount of pictures or words can tell the full story of why the Louisville Slugger has been for more than sixty years the almost unanimous choice of baseball players everywhere and why it is Organized Baseball's bat by appointment.

The answers to these queries lie in the multitude of little things acquired in three-score years of study and experience, in the maintenance at all times of high quality through close and frequent inspection, in being the exclusive and favored recipient of a constant stream of ideas and suggestions from baseball's greatest hitters, and in the ability of many long-time employees to translate this knowledge into fine bats.

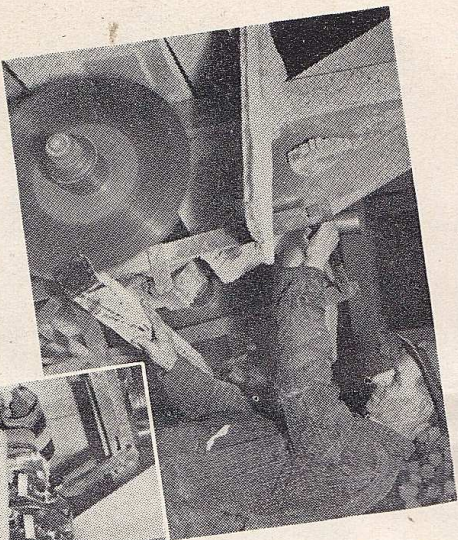
1. A cartload of white ash rounds being unloaded at Hillerich & Bradshaw's 9-acre timber yard in Louisville.



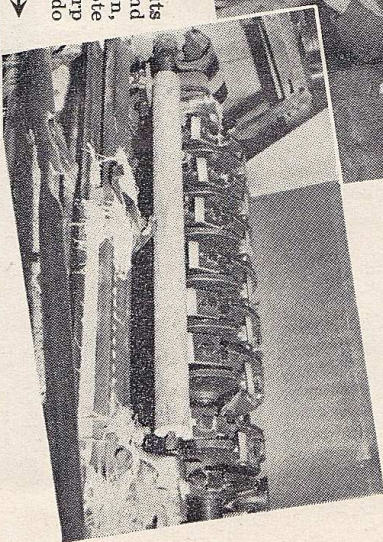
2. At the timber yard the pieces are stacked in such a way as to allow the air to circulate freely through every pile. Thus they are seasoned in Nature's own way until they are thoroughly dry.



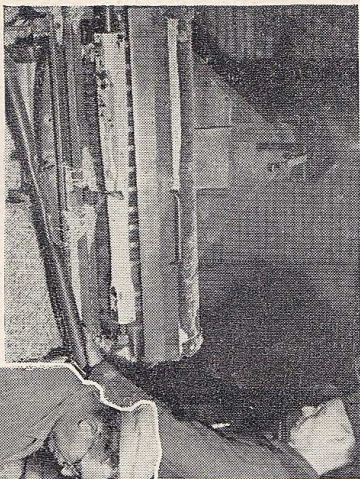
How Louisville Sluggers Are Made



3. At factory both ends of each piece are trimmed on double cut-off saw.



4. Lathe on which rough-outs are turned from rounds and squares. A round is shown, ready for turning. Note cylinder of razor-sharp knife heads which will do the cutting.

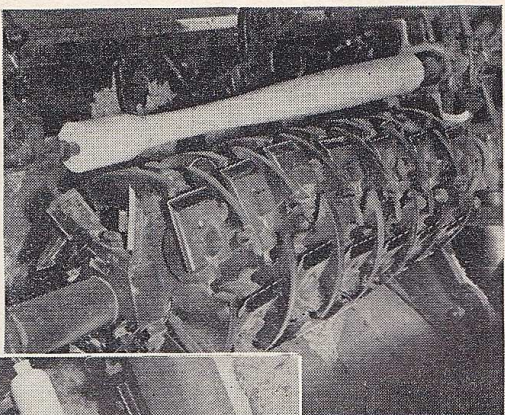


5. Here a square, revolving slowly, has been forced up against the whirling cylinder of knife heads and is fast being turned down to a rough-out.

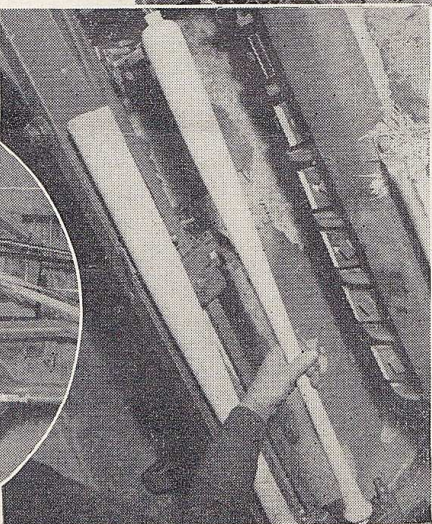


6. Rough-outs being weighed and graded to determine for which models they will be most suitable.

How Louisville Sluggers Are Made

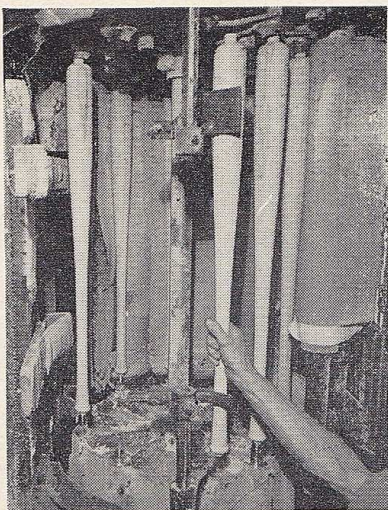


7. Rough-out just as it is beginning to be turned down into a bat. Each of the many knife heads has been adjusted so that bats to be turned will be exact length, diameter, and shape of original model.

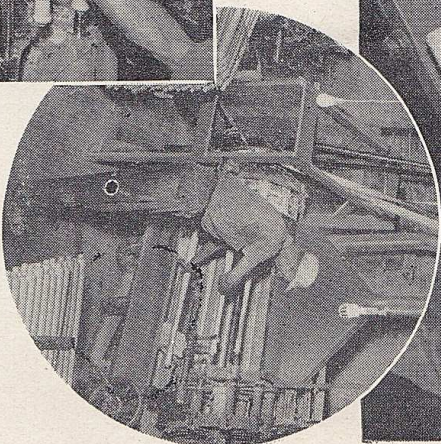


8. Newly turned bat being taken from lathe—note ends into which "centers" on lathe are driven to hold bat secure during turning.

9. After turning, bats get rough sanded in the automatic machine.

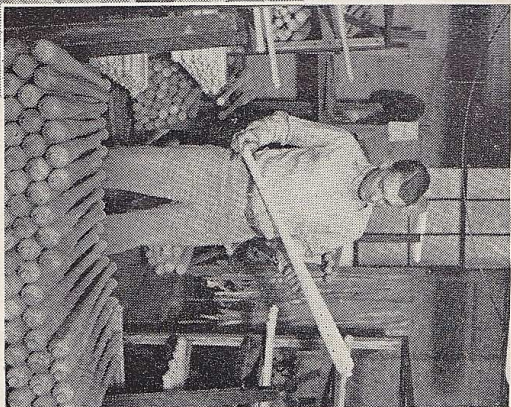
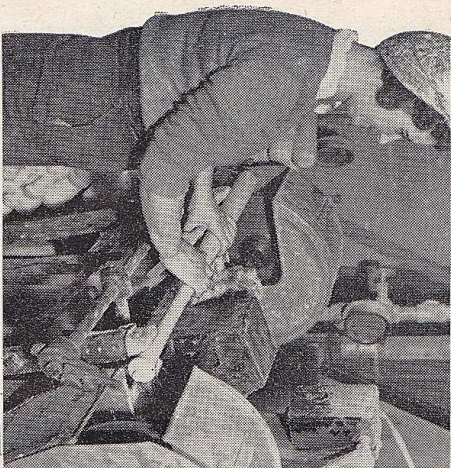


10. Close-up of sanding machine, showing bats revolving at great speed against sand cloth and brushes in back of machine.

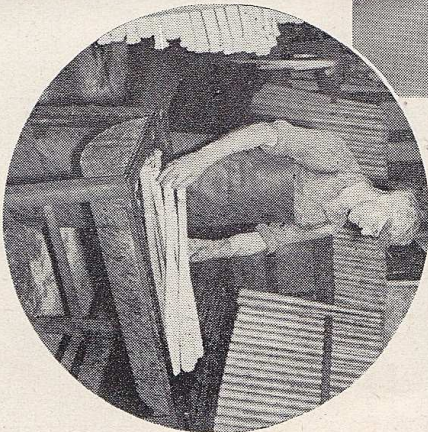


How Louisville Sluggers Are Made

11. The most exacting of all inspections is made here, under daylight lamps. Each bat is carefully scrutinized for blemishes, etc., that might have escaped previous inspections. After inspection, bats go back to automatic sander for fine sanding.

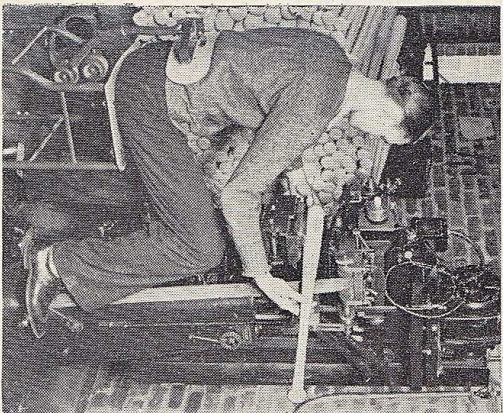


12. Ends, no longer needed, are sawed off.



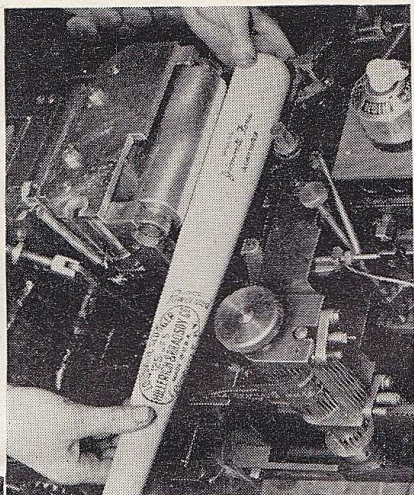
13. Bats that are not to have natural finish are dipped in stain vat and stood up to dry.

14. Louisville Sluggers being branded.

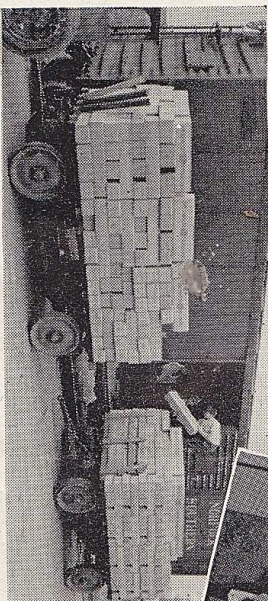
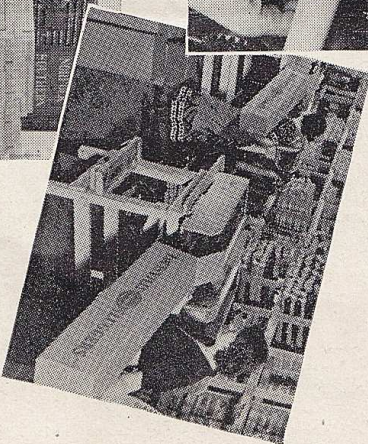


How Louisville Sluggers Are Made

15. Close-up of branding. The rollers on which the bat is resting are forced up by hydraulic pressure and the heated die above leaves its impression in the wood. By use of foil between bat and die, any color in brand can be obtained.

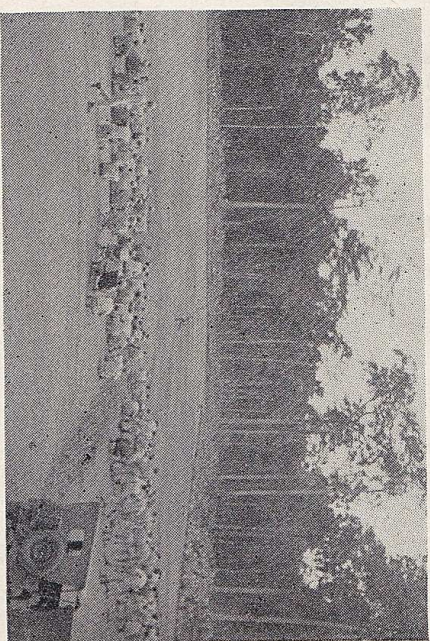


16. After final inspection, bats go to this assembly line for packing.



17. Shipping Louisville Sluggers to every point throughout the world where baseball and softball are played.

18. In this picture, U. S. fighting men in New Guinea are seen playing a game in which Louisville Sluggers were used to decide the issue.



STARS OF 1944 HIT PARADE AMERICAN LEAGUE



STEPHENS
St. Louis



SPENCE
Washington



HIGGINS
Detroit



PETE FOX
Boston



ETTEN
New York



ESTALELLA
Philadelphia



WAKEFIELD
Detroit



SIEBERT
Philadelphia



LINDELL
New York



HODGIN
Chicago

JOE DI MAGGIO'S 56-GAME RECORD BATTING STREAK

Playing with New York American League Club—1941

Date	Opposing Club and Pitcher	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI
May								
15	Chicago—Smith	4	2	1	—	—	—	1
16	Chicago—Lee	4	1	2	—	—	—	1
17	Chicago—Rigney	3	3	3	—	—	—	1
18	St. Louis—Harris (2)—Niggeling (1)	3	3	3	—	—	—	1
19	St. Louis—Galehouse	3	3	3	—	—	—	1
20	St. Louis—Auker	3	3	3	—	—	—	1
21	Detroit—Rowe (1)—Benton (1)	4	1	2	—	—	—	1
22	Detroit—McKain	4	—	1	—	—	—	1
23	Boston—Newsome	4	—	1	—	—	—	1
24	Boston—Johnson	4	—	1	—	—	—	1
25	Boston—Grove	4	—	1	—	—	—	1
26	Washington—Chase (1)—Anderson (2)—(var.)	4	—	1	—	—	—	1
27	Washington—Hudson	3	1	4	—	—	—	3
28	Washington—Sundra	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
29	Washington—Johnson	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
30	Boston—Harris	3	—	1	—	—	—	—

Date	Opposing Club and Pitcher	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI
June								
1	Cleveland—Milnar	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
2	Cleveland—Harder	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
3	Cleveland—Feller	4	2	1	—	—	—	—
4	Detroit—Trout	4	1	2	—	—	—	—
5	Detroit—Newhouser	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
6	St. Louis—Munroff (1)—Allen (1)—Caster (1)	4	1	3	—	—	—	—
7	St. Louis—Auker	4	1	3	—	—	—	—
8	St. Louis—Caster (1)—Kramer (1)	4	1	3	—	—	—	—
9	Chicago—Rigney	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	Chicago—Lee	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
11	Cleveland—Feller	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
12	Cleveland—Bachy	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
13	Cleveland—Milnar	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
14	Chicago—Rigney	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	Chicago—Lee	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
16	Chicago—Smith (1)—Ross (2)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
17	Detroit—Newson (2)—McKain (2)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
18	Detroit—Trout	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
19	Chicago—Lee	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
20	Chicago—Smith (1)—Newson (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
21	Detroit—Trout	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
22	Detroit—Newhouser (1)—Newsom (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
23	St. Louis—Munroff (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
24	St. Louis—Galehouse	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
25	St. Louis—Auker	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
26	Philadelphia—Dean	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
27	Philadelphia—Babich (1)—Harris (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
28	Washington—Leonard	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
29	Washington—Anderson	4	1	1	—	—	—	—

Date	Opposing Club and Pitcher	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI
July								
1	Boston—Harris (1)—Ryba (1)	4	1	2	—	—	—	1
2	Boston—Wilson	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
3	Boston—Newsome	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
4	Philadelphia—Marchildon	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	Philadelphia—Babich (1)—Hadley (3)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
6	Philadelphia—Knoft	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
7	St. Louis—Niggeling	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
8	St. Louis—Harris (3)—Kramer (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
9	St. Louis—Auker (1)—Munroff (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	Chicago—Lyons (2)—Hallert (1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
11	Chicago—Lee	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
12	Chicago—Rigney	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
13	Chicago—Smith	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
14	Cleveland—Milnar	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	Cleveland—Smith	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
16	Cleveland—Anderson	4	1	1	—	—	—	—

Totals for 56 games—223 56 91 16 4 15 55

Stopped Night Game, July 17, by Cleveland (Smith and Bachy)

(Night)

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

Baseball's Favorite Bat

THE CHOICE OF EVERY GREAT HITTER



Ernie Banks



George Mikan



Ken Griffey



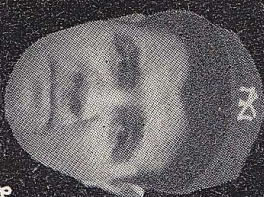
Robinson Elmore



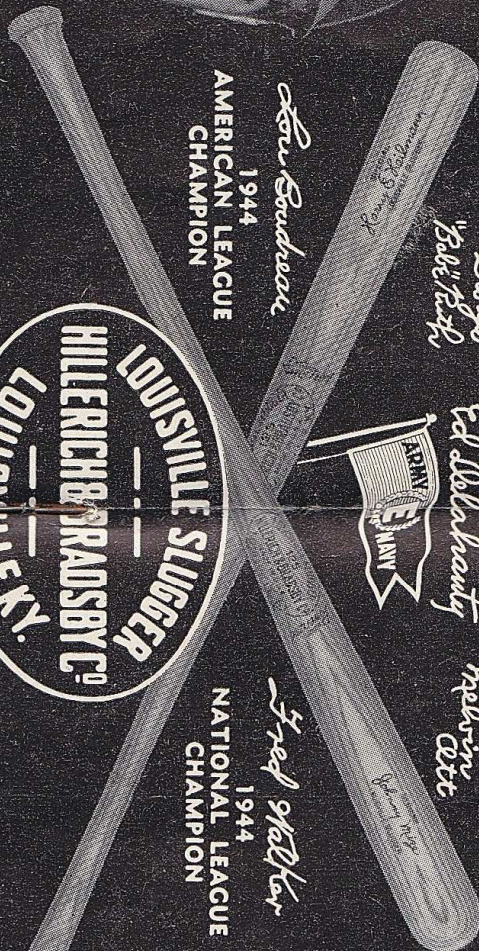
Steve Speckert



Ernie Davis



Leo "Boo" Radtke



Ken Gooden
1944
AMERICAN LEAGUE
CHAMPION

Fred Goetzler
1944
NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHAMPION



Ed Delahanty



Joe Mauer



Stan Williams



Stan Mural



Connie (Big Boy) Stoney



Paul Warner



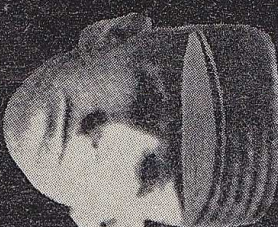
Heavenly



KEELER



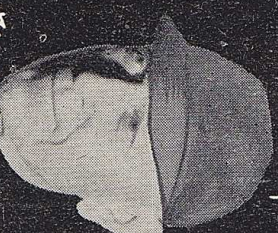
Angelo Hernandez



ANSON



John H. Wagner



Hughie Huffer

Excerpts from "SCIENCE OF BATTING"

By Ty Cobb

Below are lines reprinted from Ty Cobb's great article, "Science of Bating," which he wrote for the 1944 Famous Slugger Year Book. If you desire a free copy of the 1944 Famous Slugger Year Book, in which "Science of Bating" appears in its original form (over 2,000 words), address your request to Dept. TC, Hillerich & Bradsby Co., Inc., Louisville 2, Ky.



• First of all is selection of bat. . . . My personal Louisville Slugger . . . was 34 1/2 inches—a length easy to handle. . . . My bats were 40 ounces. • Next comes position. Never copy another batter's position if it should be some exaggerated form of crouch. Take all your best batters—they stand up and have the look of a hitter. • The space between the feet should be measured by how well balanced you feel. • I strongly favor the hitting to all fields. • Always keep behind the plate—protect yourself from curve balls. • . . . never forget—the pitcher must get the ball up to and over the plate regardless of where the batter stands. • One definite remark that can be made on this subject (meaning where to stand in the batter's box) is: do not crowd the plate. • Keep your arms, and particularly your elbows, away from your body. • Watch the pitcher's every move and never let your eye leave the ball. • Ty never to let a defensive thought enter your mind. Make yourself believe and think you are better than the opposition. • . . . don't over-swing for a long hit. • If your stance and position are correct, the action that follows should be automatically more or less right. • Get the proper fundamentals, practice and practice them, and take care of yourself physically.

Ty Cobb

STARS OF 1944 HIT PARADE NATIONAL LEAGUE



CALAN
Brooklyn



RUSSELL
Pittsburgh



MEDWICK
New York



NORTHEY
Philadelphia



TIPTON
Cincinnati



F. McCORMICK
Cincinnati



ELLIOTT
Pittsburgh



HOPP
St. Louis



CAVARRETTA
Chicago

HOLMES
Boston



ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—1944 WORLD'S CHAMPIONS

Back row, left to right—Butch Yatkeman, clubhouse man; Sylvester Donnelly, Ted Wilks, Danny Litwhiler, Ray Sanders, Morton Cooper, Max Lanier, Stanley Musial, Harry Brecheen. Middle row—Bill Byerly, Fred Schmidt, Bob Keely, George Fallon, Johnny Hopp, Augie Bergamo, George Kurowski, Leo Ward, traveling secretary; Harrison J. Weaver, trainer. Front row—Marty Marion, Emil Verban, Alvin Jurisich, Mike Gonzalez, coach; Billy Southworth, manager; Buzzy Wares, coach; Pepper Martin, Debs Garms, Ken O'Dea. In Front—C. Cooper and Bob Scanlon, bat boys.

Diamond Slugger Records

WORLD SERIES WINNING RUNS

Player whose hit or play in the last game of each World Series brought in what proved to be the actual winning run, the kind of hit or play, and the inning in which it occurred.

Year	Player	Team	Hit or Play	Inning
1944	Emil Verban	Cardinals	Single	4
1948	Bill Dickey	Yankees	Home Run	6
1948	George Kurowski	Cardinals	Home Run	9
1941	Joe Gordon	Yankees	Single	2
1940	William Myers	Reds	Outfield Fly	7
1939	Joe DiMaggio	Yankees	Single	10
1938	Tom Henrich	Yankees	Home Run	6
1937	Vernon Gomez	Yankees	Single	5
1936	Anthony Lazzeri	Yankees	Single	8
1935	Goose Goslin	Tigers	Single	9
1934	Frank Frisch	Cardinals	Two-base Hit	3
1933	Mel Ott	Giants	Home Run	10
1932	Joe Sewell	Yankees	Single	7
1931	George Watkins	Cardinals	Home Run	3
1930	Bing Miller	Athletics	Two-base Hit	1
1929	Bing Miller	Athletics	Two-base Hit	9
1928	Eugene Robertson	Yankees	Fielder's Choice	7
1927	Earle Combs	Yankees	Wild Pitch (Mlins)	9
1926	Thomas Thevenow	Cardinals	Single	4
1925	Hazen Cuyler	Pirates	Two-base Hit	8
*1924	Earl McNeeley	Senators	Single	12
1923	Robert Meusel	Yankees	Single	8
1922	George Kelly	Giants	Single	8
1921	George Kelly	Giants	Error by Peckinpaugh, Shortstop	1
1920	Larry Gardner	Indians	Raced Home from Third on Grimes' Wild Throw to Second to prevent Johnston's Steal	4
1919	Earle Neale	Reds	Single	4
1918	George Whiteman	Red Sox	Flack's Muff of Whiteman's Fly	3
1917	Chic Gandil	White Sox	Single	4
1916	Harold Janvin	Red Sox	Janvin's Grounder plus Olson's Wild Throw	3
1915	Harry Hooper	Red Sox	Home Run	9
1914	John Evers	Braves	Single	5
1913	Frank Baker	Athletics	Infield Hit	3
1912	Larry Gardner	Red Sox	Sacrifice Fly	10
1911	Jack Barry	Athletics	Sacrifice plus Ames Error	4
1910	Bryson Lord	Athletics	Two-base Hit	8
1909	Hamilton Hyatt	Pirates	Sacrifice Fly	2
1908	Frank Chance	Cubs	Single	1
1907	Harry Steinfield	Cubs	Single	1
1906	George Davis	White Sox	Single	1
1905	Billy Gilbert	Giants	Sacrifice Fly	5
1904	(NO SERIES)			
1903	Albert H. Ferris	Red Sox	Single	4

*Combs came in from Third on a Wild Pitch.

*Ground ball hit pebble, bounced over Lindstrom's head at Third Base.

Drive in the winning run for Uncle Sam—Buy War Bonds



ST. LOUIS BROWNS—1944 AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Front row, left to right—Orville Paul, Sam Zoldak, Ellis Clary, Zack Taylor, coach; Luke Sewell, manager; Fred Hofmann, coach; Gene Moore, Mike Chartak, Vern Stephens, Frank Mancuso. Middle row—Charles DeWitt, traveling secretary; George Caster, Floyd Baker, Nelson Potter, Al Zarilla, George McQuinn, Chet Laabs, Mark Christman, Milt Byrnes, Don Gutteridge, Bob Bauman, trainer; Hanley, clubhouse man. Back row—Weldon West, Newman Shirley, Bob Muncrief, Tom Hafey, Myron Hayworth, Jack Kramer, Al Hollingsworth, Denny Galehouse, Mike Kreevich, Sig Jakucki. In front—Bob Scanlon, bat boy.

Famous Slugger Records

WORLD'S SERIES RESULTS

Winners	Won	Lost	Losers
1944 St. Louis	4	2	St. Louis
1943 New York	4	1	St. Louis
1942 St. Louis	4	1	New York
1941 New York	4	1	Brooklyn
1940 Cincinnati	4	1	Detroit
1939 New York	4	0	Cincinnati
1938 New York	4	0	Chicago
1937 New York	4	1	New York
1936 New York	4	2	Chicago
1935 Detroit	4	3	Detroit
1934 St. Louis	4	3	Washington
1933 New York	4	1	Chicago
1932 St. Louis	4	0	Philadelphia
1931 Philadelphia	4	3	St. Louis
1930 Philadelphia	4	0	Chicago
1929 New York	4	1	St. Louis
1928 St. Louis	4	0	Pittsburgh
1927 St. Louis	4	3	New York
1926 Pittsburgh	4	3	Washington
1925 Washington	4	3	New York
1924 New York	4	2	New York
1923 New York	4	0	New York
1922 New York	4	1	New York
1921 New York	4	2	New York
1920 Cleveland	4	3	Brooklyn
1919 Cincinnati	4	3	Chicago
1918 Boston	4	3	Chicago
1917 Boston	4	2	Chicago
1916 Boston	4	1	Brooklyn
1915 Boston	4	1	Philadelphia
1914 Philadelphia	4	1	New York
1913 Boston	4	3	New York
1912 Philadelphia	4	1	New York
1911 Philadelphia	4	2	New York
1910 Philadelphia	4	1	Chicago
1909 Pittsburgh	4	3	Detroit
1908 Chicago	4	1	Detroit
1907 Chicago	4	1	Detroit
1906 Chicago	4	2	Chicago
1905 New York	4	1	Philadelphia
1904 No Series	5	3	Pittsburgh
1903 Boston	4	1	Chicago
No Series in 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902			
1897 Baltimore	4	1	Boston
1896 Baltimore	4	0	Cleveland
1895 Cleveland	4	1	Baltimore
1894 New York	4	0	Baltimore
1893 No Series	4	0	Cleveland
1892 Boston	4	1	Cleveland
1891 No Series	3	3	Louisville
1890 Brooklyn	3	3	Brooklyn
1889 New York	6	3	St. Louis
1888 St. Louis	6	4	St. Louis
1887 Detroit	10	5	Chicago
1886 St. Louis	4	2	Chicago
1885 St. Louis	3	3	Chicago
1884 Providence	3	0	Metropolitan

The American League leads in the number of World's Series titles by 24 to 16. This begins with the first official Series, sponsored in 1903 by the National Commission.

SEE THE 1944 WORLD SERIES IN MOVING PICTURES

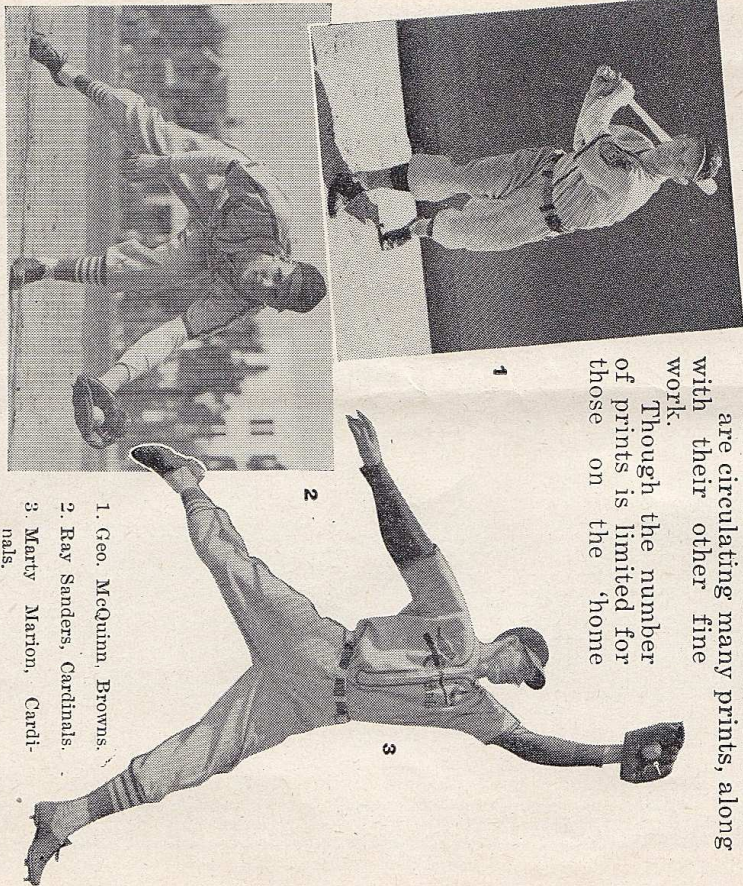
CO-SPONSORED BY HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.

Again in 1944 the Hillerich & Bradsky Company in cooperation with the American League made filming of the World Series possible.

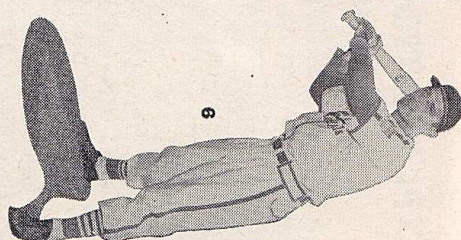
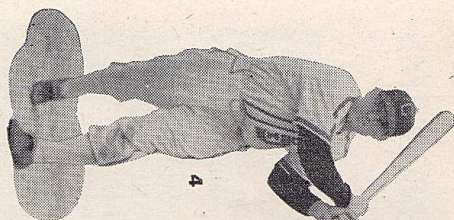
This new sound-on 16 mm. film in its 30-minute running time has captured each and every stand-out-play—both fielding and batting—of the thrilling six-game battle between the Cardinals and Browns. Gripping realism and personality is further imparted through popular announcer Lieut. Comdr. Bob Elson's enthusiastic commentary.

Hundreds of prints of "The World Series of 1944" are being distributed by the Movie Service Bureaus of our Armed Forces for showing wherever U. S. fighting men are stationed, both at home and abroad. A sufficient number has also been placed at the disposal of service hospitals for the entertainment of the sick and wounded. U.S.O. centers are circulating many prints, along with their other fine work.

Though the number of prints is limited for those on the 'home

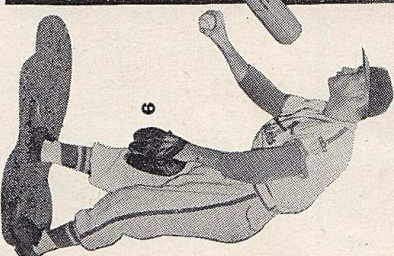
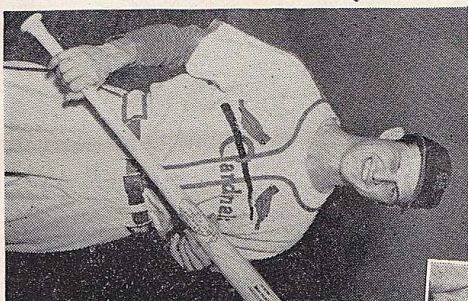
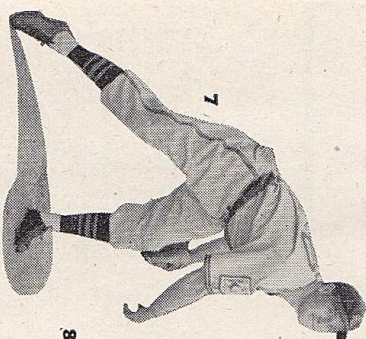


1. Geo. McQuinn, Browns.
2. Ray Sanders, Cardinals.
3. Marty Marion, Cardinals.



front,' schools, churches, clubs, civic and fraternal organizations, industrial recreation groups, etc., may book the film by writing Lew Fonseca, American League of Professional Baseball Clubs, 310 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago 4, Illinois. When requesting a booking, mention at least three different dates so as to offer an alternative in the event the one of your choice is not open. The film must be shown on a projector with sound attachment.

4. Mike Kreevich, Browns.—5. Walker Cooper, Cardinals.—6. Emil Verban, Cardinals.—7. Jack Kramer, Browns.—8. Stan Musial, Cardinals.—9. "Blix" Donnelly, Cardinals.—10. Frank Mancuso, Browns.



EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATION TERMS In Box Scores and Averages

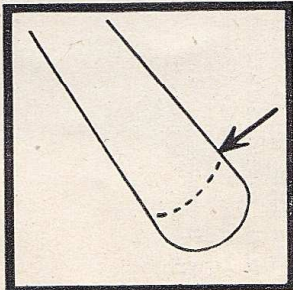
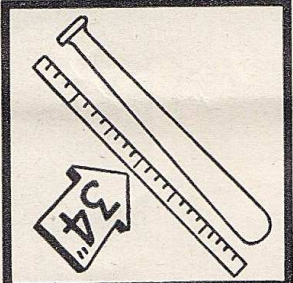
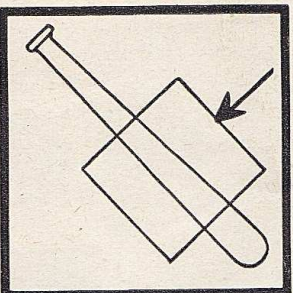
AB—times at bat. R—runs. H—hits. PO—putouts. A—assists. E—errors. G—games. TB—total bases. 2B—two-base hits. 3B—three-base hits. HR—home runs. RBI—runs batted in. SB—stolen bases. CS—caught stealing. SH—sacrifice hits. Pct. (or B.A.)—batting average. HB—times hit by pitched ball.

DP—double plays. TP—triple plays. TC—total fielding chances. Pct. (or F.A.)—fielding average. LOB (or LB)—left on bases. PB—passed balls. OR—opponents' runs.

IP—innings pitched. W—games won. L—games lost. H—hits allowed. R—runs allowed. ER—earned runs allowed. BB—bases on balls. SO—strikeouts. WP—wild pitches. SH—sacrifice hits. HB—hit batsmen. BK—balks. T—tie games. GS—games started. GF—games finished (as relief pitcher). IG—incomplete games (games not finished as relief pitcher). CG—complete games. Pct.—winning percentage. ERA (or Ave.)—earned-run average.

Swing Speed

(Continued From Page 8)



What Is the Best Bat Length?

Abe Lincoln said a man's legs should be just long enough to reach the ground. A baseball bat should be just long enough to reach the ground. The bat's proper hitting space from where the batter takes his stance. The arms can reach the necessary distance to hit all pitches in the strike zone. A bat that is too long, necessary, reduces swing speed, and puts extra strain on the bat-increasing the possibility of breaking.

Shorter Length Bats Necessary Today

For the average ball player, the 34" bat is the more practical. Many of the greatest hitters from the 1900s to the present day have used bats 34" or shorter. Today's game requires a bat with a maximum swing speed.

Even an Extra 1/2-Inch Slows Up Swing

Actual tests prove that a bat as little as 1/2 inch too long slows up the swing speed by 33 units. A bat that is just an extra half-inch does that. Today's game requires a bat with a maximum swing speed.

(Continued on Page 52)

COMPOSITE BOX SCORE OF THE 1944 WORLD SERIES

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS' BATTING AND FIELDING AVERAGES															
Player-Pos.	G.	AB.	R.	H.	2B.	3B.	HR.	TB.	RBI.	E.A.	P.O.	A.	E.	F.A.	
Livahier, 1f	5	20	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	.200	5	0	0	1.000	
Bergano, 1f	5	20	6	2	0	0	0	0	1	.300	5	0	0	1.000	
Kopp, cf	5	20	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	11	0	0	1.000	
W. Cooper, c	6	23	3	2	0	0	0	1	12	.304	11	0	0	1.000	
Sanders, 1b	6	22	6	2	0	0	0	1	11	.286	55	0	0	1.000	
Kurovski, 3b	6	21	5	7	0	0	0	1	9	.286	51	0	0	1.000	
Marion, ss	6	22	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	.227	4	15	0	1.000	
Verban, 2b	6	23	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	.217	7	4	22	0	1.000
W. Cooper, p	5	17	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	10	0	0	1.000	
Donnelly, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Lanier, p	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	0	1.000	
Wilks, p	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Schmidt, p	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Burchick, p	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Beechen, p	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	3	0	1.000
O'Dea	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.333	0	0	0	.000	
Totals	304	16	49	9	1	3	69	15	165	.240	165	59	1	.396	

Bergano batted for Verban in seventh inning of first game and for Schmidt in third inning of third game. Gurns batted for M. Cooper in seventh inning of first game and for Verban in seventh inning of third game. O'Dea batted for Donnelly in ninth inning of first game; for Verban in eleventh inning of second game and for Byerly in ninth inning of third game.

ST. LOUIS BROWNS' BATTING AND FIELDING AVERAGES

Player-Pos.	G.	AB.	R.	H.	2B.	3B.	HR.	TB.	RBI.	E.A.	P.O.	A.	E.	F.A.	
Gutteridge, 2b	6	21	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	.143	15	11	3	.597	
Baker, 2b	6	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1	0	0	1.000	
Kreevich, cf	6	26	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.231	20	2	0	1.000	
Moore, 1f	6	22	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	.182	8	0	0	1.000	
Stephens, ss	6	22	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	.091	5	0	0	1.000	
Leahs, 1b	6	15	1	3	1	0	0	1	12	.200	5	12	0	1.000	
Zarilla, 1f	5	15	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	.100	2	0	0	1.000	
Christman, 3b	6	22	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	.091	3	9	2	.823	
Hayworth, c	6	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.118	45	3	0	1.000	
Manoso, c	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.667	3	2	1	1.000	
Galehouse, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	2	0	0	1.000	
Munciel, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Kramer, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Jakucki, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Hollingsworth, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Shirley, p	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1.000	
Byrnes	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	.000	
Clay	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	.000	
Charlak	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	.000	
Totals	197	12	36	9	1	1	50	9	183	.163	163	60	10	.557	

Manoso batted for Potter in seventh inning of second game. Shirley ran for Manoso in seventh inning of second game. Byrnes batted for Hollingsworth in seventh inning of fourth game; for Christman in ninth inning of fifth game and in ninth inning of sixth game. Turner batted for Shirley in ninth inning of fourth game. Leahs batted for Hayworth in third inning of fourth game. Leahs batted for Hayworth in ninth inning of fifth game. Charlak batted for Galehouse in ninth inning of fifth game and for Hayworth in ninth inning of sixth game. Zarilla batted for Leahs in tenth inning of second game and for Hayworth in seventh inning of sixth game. Munciel batted for Gutteridge in seventh inning of fifth game and in seventh inning of sixth game.

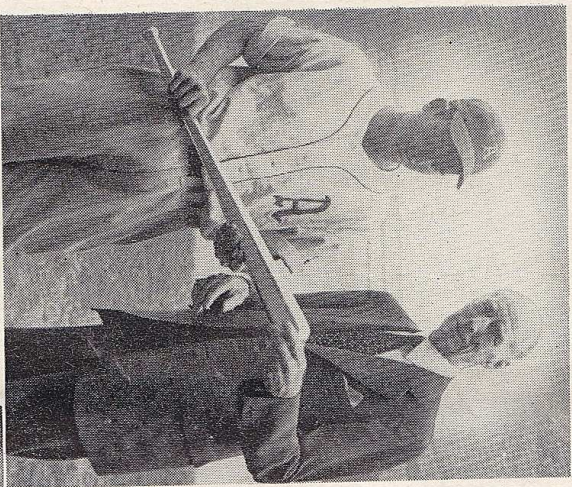
COMPOSITE SCORE BY INNINGS

Innings	Cardinals	Browns
1	1	0
2	0	3
3	4	0
4	0	2
5	2	1
6	1	1
7	1	0
8	1	0
9	1	0
10	0	1
11	0	1
12	0	0

1943 Louisville Slugger Trophy

First Award of Kind in Major League Park

The 1943 Louisville Slugger Trophy was the first of the ten silver bats that have been awarded minor league batting championships to be presented in a big league park. The honor of establishing this precedent, as well as the valuable prize, went to George Kell, Philadelphia Athletic third baseman, in Shibe Park Sunday, July 9, 1944.



Kell's .396 award-winning batting average, highest for the minors as well as for all organized ball in 1943, was made while he was playing for the Lancaster Red Roses.

Loyal Red Roses fans who voted him their most popular player that year arranged "Kell Night" in Lancaster August 12, and a second presentation of the Trophy was made by Mayor D. E. Cary in their presence.

Third baseman Kell turned in a creditable batting mark with his Louisville Sluggers for the Athletics in 1944, his freshman year in the Majors.

The Grand Old Man of Baseball, Connie Mack, Manager of the Athletics, congratulates his young third baseman, George Kell, after the presentation.



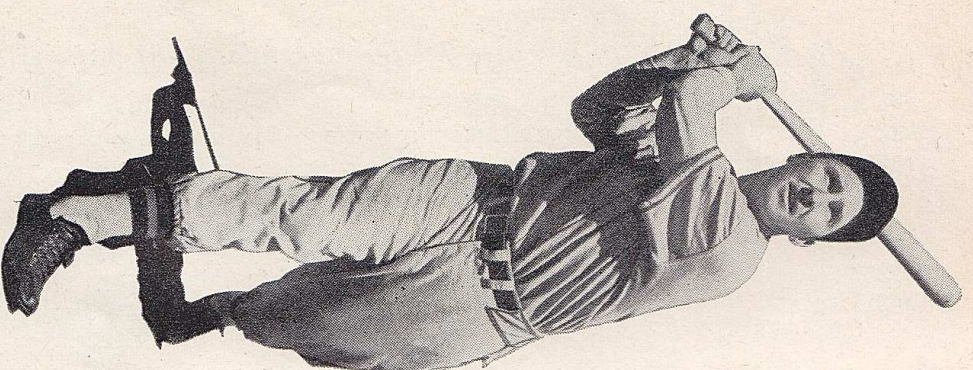
Rip Collins

Adds sterling silver bat to famous collection

WINS 1944 LOUISVILLE SLUGGER TROPHY

First Baseman-Manager James A. "Rip" Collins, of the Albany Senators, swinging his Louisville Slugger with the same authority as he did for the 1934 World's Champion St. Louis Cardinals, produced the highest batting average in Organized Ball in 1944 as he flailed Eastern League pitching for a .396 mark.

Voted the Eastern League's most valuable player, leading first baseman, and outstanding manager, Rip's hefty .396 average, second highest in the circuit's 22-year history, won for him the 1944 Louisville Slugger Trophy. It will be presented during the 1945 campaign. The coveted award, a full-sized sterling silver Louisville Slugger bat given annually to the minor leagues' top hitter, will adorn the Ripper's renowned baseball trophy room.



Precious Winners of Louisville Slugger Trophy

Year	Player, Team, and League	Pct.
1943—	Geo. Kell, Lancaster, Pa., Inter-State League.....	.396
1942—	James Gruzdis, Thomasville, N. C., North Carolina League.....	.418
1941—	Lewis Flick, Elizabethton, Tenn., Appalachian League.....	.418
1940—	Edwin Schweda, Lubbock, Texas, West Texas-New Mexico League.....	.422
1939—	Robert "Joe" Schmidt, Duluth, Minn., Northern League.....	.441
1938—	Murray Franklin, Beckley, W. Va., Mountain State League.....	.489
1937—	Earl "Red" Martin, Beckley, W. Va., Mountain State League.....	.400
1936—	Ed Zipay, Fostoria, Ohio State League.....	.419
1935—	Oscar Eckhardt, Hollywood, Calif., Pacific Coast League.....	.399
1934—	Jimmy Sanders, Jacksonville, Fla., Texas-West Dixie League.....	.423

Minor League Batting Champions of 1944

Class AA

American Association.....	John Wyrostek.....	Columbus, Ohio.....	.358
International League.....	Mayo Smith.....	Buffalo, New York.....	.340
Pacific Coast League.....	Leslie Scarsella.....	Oakland, Calif.329

Class A-1

Southern Association.....	Rene Monteagudo.....	Chattanooga, Tenn.370
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Class A

Eastern League.....	James "Rip" Collins.....	Albany, N. Y.396
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Class B

Inter-State League.....	Ira "Jack" Houck.....	Lancaster, Pa.356
Piedmont League.....	Cecil "Zip" Payne.....	Lynchburg, Va.340

Class D

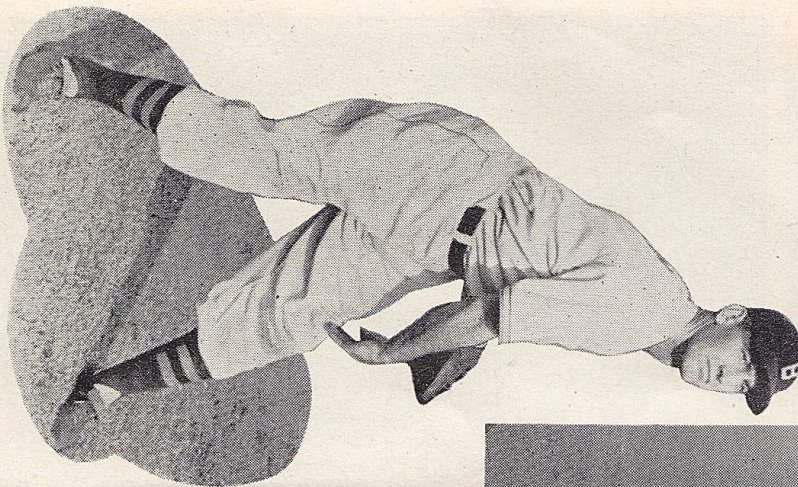
Appalachian League.....	Ray Stokes.....	Kingsport, Tenn.351
Ohio State League.....	Luke Majorki.....	Newark, Ohio355
Pony League.....	John Gwosden.....	Hornell, N. Y.338

Do Your Hitting for Uncle Sam—Buy More War Bonds

Batting Champions of 1944

JOHN WYROSTEK American Association

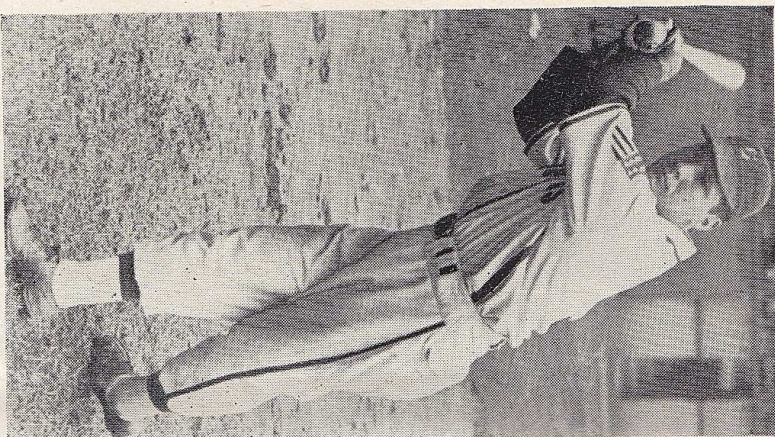
Although Uncle Sam interrupted his career late last August with a call for Army duty, Outfielder Johnny Wyrostek of Columbus annexed the 1944 American Association batting crown with a .358 average in 110 games. Johnny hammered out with his Louisville Slugger 149 hits, including 50 doubles.



MAYO SMITH International League

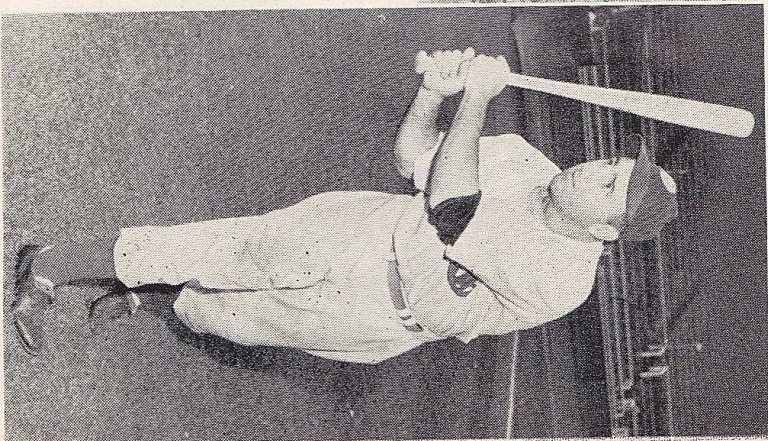
Connecting for 169 safeties in 150 games and scoring 123 runs, Outfielder Mayo Smith of Buffalo compiled a neat .340 average to gain 1944 batting laurels in the International League. As a result of his fine performance, Smith was drafted by the Philadelphia Athletics.

Batting Champions of 1944



← RENE MONTEAGUDO Southern Association

After enjoying only indifferent success as a hurler, Rene Monteagudo, diminutive Cuban left hander, switched to the outfield and last season produced a hefty .370 batting average with Chattanooga to earn 1944 Southern Association batting honors. Although not a long-distance slugger, "Monte" drove across 69 scores with his timely blows.



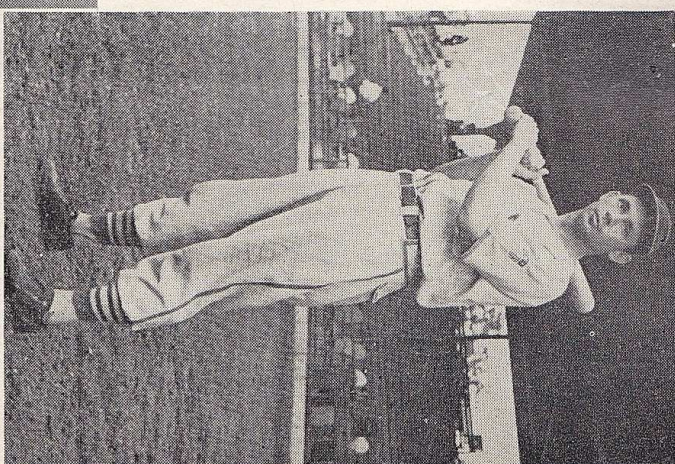
LES SCARSELLA Pacific Coast League

The Oakland Oaks' all-round star, Leslie Scarsella, beat out Hollywood's Frank Kelleher by the uncomfortably close margin—.3286 to .32854—to win the Pacific Coast League's 1944 Batting Championship. Another Louisville Slugger user, Les pitches and plays with equal skill. He has been sold to the Philadelphia Blue Jays.

Batting Champions of 1944

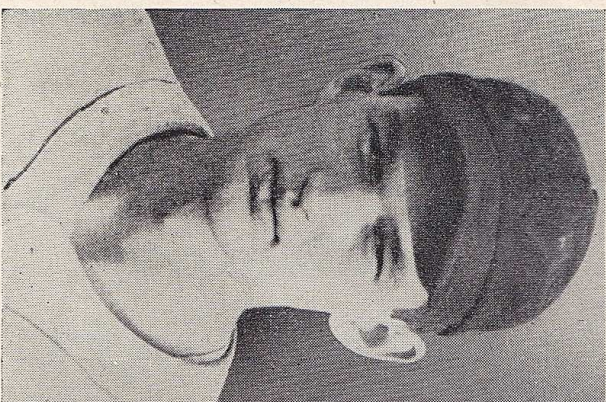
"ZIP" PAYNE Piedmont League

After a year's absence from Organized Ball, Cecil (Zip) Payne, veteran outfielder, returned with Lynchburg last season and proceeded to win the 1944 Piedmont League batting title with .340. Payne, who piloted Leaksville in 1942, socked out 181 hits, high for the league, in 135 contests.



← "JACK" HOUCK Inter-State League

Playing his first season of pro ball, Outfielder Ira (Jack) Houck of Lancaster proved the sensation of the Class B Inter-State League with his Louisville Slugger, capturing 1944 batting honors with a fancy .356 figure. The popular youngster, performing in each of his club's 140 games, also topped the league in hits, with 190.



Batting Champions of 1944

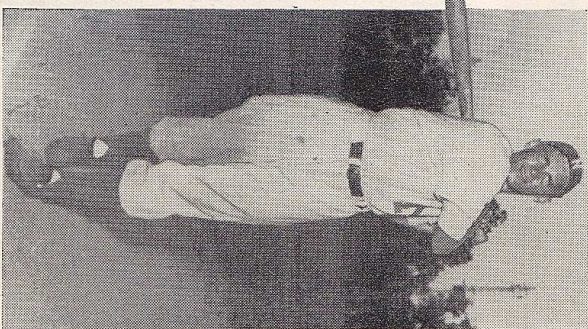
LUKE MAJORKI Ohio State League

Luke Majorki, heavy-hitting rookie outfielder of the Newark Moundsmen, won the 1944 Ohio State League batting championship with a percentage of .355.



RAY STOKES Appalachian League

Ray Stokes, 20-year-old Kingsport third sacker, nabbed 1944 Appalachian League hitting laurels with a .351 average in his first season in Organized Baseball.



JOHNNY GWOSDEN Pony League

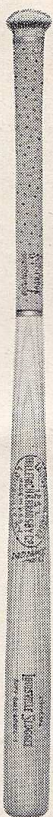
In a close three-cornered batting race, Johnny Gwosden, outfielder-second baseman of the Hornell Pirates, edged out Don Hasenmayer of Bradford and Bobby Rothel of Batavia for the 1944 Pony League swat title. Gwosden finished with a .3383 average, Hasenmayer .3375 and Rothel .3368.



50

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

The fame and universal choice of Louisville Sluggers, in softball as well as in baseball, has spread to wherever the games are played. Excellence in quality and design, plus the "know-how" of veteran bat makers, has earned and maintained Louisville Sluggers' enviable reputation.

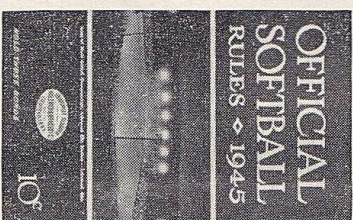


The distinctive Louisville Slugger softball line includes a model for every type of hitter, and a variety of models is offered in each price range.



Official Softball Rules for 1945

Hillierich & Bradsby's 48-page "Official Softball Rules for 1945" contains, in addition to all rules, articles on how to hit, pictures and records of softball champions, and Amateur Softball Association news.



How to Obtain Your Rule Book

Go to your regular Sporting Goods Dealer or send your request, with 10 cents in coin or postage, to
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IN SOFTBALL AS IN BASEBALL

THIS TRADEMARK



STANDS SUPREME

51

National League Batting Champions

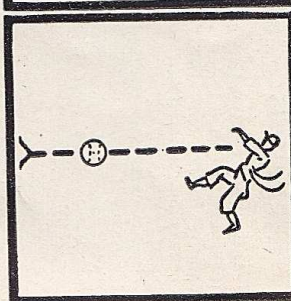
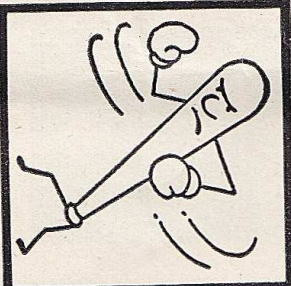
(Continued From Page 4)

Year	Player and Club	Games	Hits	Pct.
1899	E. J. Delahanty, Philadelphia	146	234	.408
1898	K. Keeler, Baltimore	128	214	.379
1897	K. Keeler, Baltimore	128	243	.432
1896	B. Burket, Cleveland	133	240	.410
1895	B. Burket, Cleveland	132	235	.423
1894	Duffy, Boston	124	236	.438
1893	Duffy, Boston	131	203	.378
1892	Brothers, Brooklyn	152	197	.335
	Childs, Cleveland	144	185	.335
1891	Hamilton, Philadelphia	133	179	.338
1890	Glasscock, New York	124	172	.336
1889	Brothers, Boston	126	181	.373
1888	Anson, Chicago	134	177	.348
1887	Anson, Chicago	122	177	.348
1886	Kelly, Chicago	118	*224	.421
1885	Connor, New York	110	175	.388
1884	O'Rourke, Buffalo	104	167	.371
1883	Brothers, Buffalo	97	156	.371
1882	Brothers, Buffalo	84	129	.367
1881	Anson, Chicago	84	137	.399
1880	Gore, Chicago	75	114	.365
1879	Anson, Chicago	49	90	.407
1878	Dalrymple, Milwaukee	60	95	.407
1877	White, Boston	48	82	.385
1876	Barnes, Chicago	66	138	.404

*Base on balls counted as base hit.

Swing Speed

(Continued From Page 42)



Greater Strength With Heavier Wood

A 35 oz. bat 36 inches long must of necessity be made of heavier, looser grained, more porous wood than a 35 oz. bat measuring 34 inches long. The close grained more solid ash used in the shorter Louisville Sluggers is naturally tougher—will give you a longer lasting bat—one less liable to crack or break.

The Fastest Swinging Bat

Recent extensive experiments indicate a bat approximately 34 or 36 ounces weighing 35 oz. bat has a faster driving power than a 34 inches long bat. The contains more driving power and will give better service than a longer and heavier bat.

Just 1/2 Second

It takes approximately 1/2 second for the ball to reach the plate from the pitcher's box. That's why SWING-SPED in a bat is so important. The loss of a split-second tells the story between success or failure as a hitter. Shorter length bats mean no forcing in the swing, just smoothness and perfect control in both stride and swing.

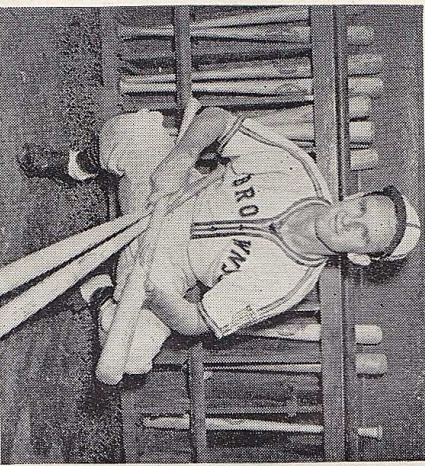
Gamout Sluggers' Batting Tips

In my long experience as an active player, I always felt that confidence was 50 per cent of whatever success I enjoyed as a hitter. I gained most of this confidence with my own personal model Louisville Slugger bat.

The Hillerich & Bradsby factory always cooperated with me 100 per cent in trying to obtain the best for me, and I have always felt most appreciative toward them.

E. T. Collins

Member of Baseball's Hall of Fame. Batting average for 25-year Major League career—.333.



George McQuinn



Eddie Collins

Train yourself to keep a cool head whenever you go to bat. The player who is calm is relaxed, he concentrates better, his coordination is better, and he waits out the pitcher more successfully.

George McQuinn

First Baseman, St. Louis Browns. Leading Batter in 1944 World Series.

Glamorous Sluggers' Batting Tips



Roger Cramer

Practice constantly at breaking from the batter's box at your greatest possible speed. That is as important as any other phase of batting. Just think of how often runners are thrown out at first by half a step—many because of a slow start.

← *Roger Cramer.*

Detroit Tigers' sterling centerfielder. 1945 will be his 17th Major League season.



George Stinnweiss

I believe that proper "timing," combined with a level swing, is the secret of consistently good hitting. Swinging harder than is natural upsets timing, just as going after bad pitches gets the swing out of groove. I mention these dangers for the special benefit of youngsters, who as a rule are over-anxious at the plate.

George Stinnweiss

George Stinnweiss, New York Yankees' brilliant second baseman. In 1944 George hit .319 and led both leagues in runs scored—125; stolen bases—55; and hits—205.

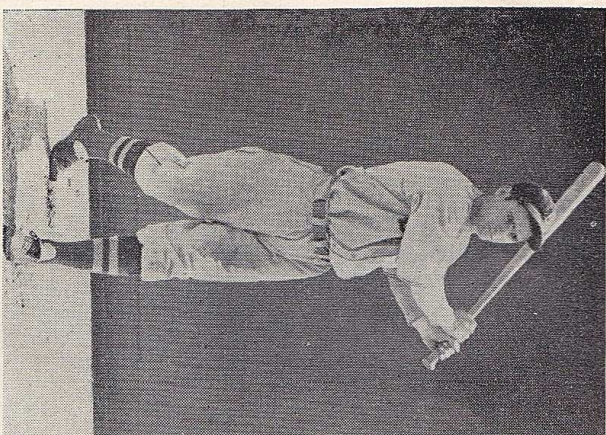
Glamorous Sluggers' Batting Tips

Advice to young fellows on batting should not be confined to position, stance, etc. At the plate a stout heart counts for more than anything else. You must will to win—make no mistake about that.

Next, keep in good shape physically. When your eyes weaken, you don't hit as often. When the feet and legs lose their spring, you don't hit as far, and the ball too frequently arrives at first base ahead of you.

Nap Lajoie →

Member of Baseball's Hall of Fame. Nap Lajoie's batting average for 21 Major League seasons—.338.



Good batting form, like success in anything else, calls for plenty of study and hard work. How you apply your efforts is equally important. First know your faults, and then try to correct them—one at a time. There are no short cuts.

Bob Doan

← Boston Red Sox. Chosen second baseman on the 1944 All-Star team, Doerr was leading the American League in batting September 3, 1944, the day on which he played his last game before entering the U. S. Army.





WINNERS OF 1944 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL JUNIOR BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP, sponsored by Robert E. Bentley Post No. 50, Cincinnati, Ohio. Front row, left to right—Dick Hauck, Larry Keller, Dean Barbour, Jim Hirth, Chuck Brentlinger, Duke Lienesch. Middle row—Don Chambers, Dick Hollstegge, Roland Klein, Ralph Kraus, H. E. Michaels. Back row—Joe Hawk, manager; Norb Ranz, captain; Herman Wehmeier, Frank Brossart, Dick Holmes, Jim Beiersdorfer, coach; Leonard Luebbers.

Junior Baseball Is Worth Continuing

by H. L. CHAILLAUX, Director

National Americanism Commission—The American Legion

More than three and one-half million boys during their teens have played American Legion Junior Baseball since 1926. A sampling survey of the present activities of these boys, many of whom graduated from Junior Baseball sixteen years ago, indicates that more than eighty per cent of them are in the armed services today. Such a large percentage of American Legion Junior Baseball boys being able to pass the physical indicates that their athletic competition taught them to keep physically fit, for current statistics from Selective Service Headquarters indicate that not more than seventy-two per cent of all eighteen-year-old boys reporting for service are able to pass the physical examination.

The Legion's Junior Baseball program has proved its value and will go on.

Four teams were in the final tournament, played at Minneapolis, Minnesota, starting August 26, 1944. The finalists were: Brockton, Massachusetts; Tucson, Arizona; Albemarle, North Carolina, and Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati won the final game from Albemarle by the score of 3 to 2. The games were played on the basis of two losses before elimination.

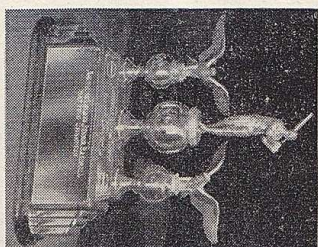
The Louisville Slugger Trophy was awarded to Louis Colombo, of Brockton, Massachusetts. He had a batting average of .489 for all national tournament games.

The Cincinnati champs were guests of The American Legion at the two opening games of the World Series at St. Louis. Wrist watches were given to the boys of the Albemarle team.

The Major Leagues of Organized Baseball again helped to finance the national tournament, to the extent of \$20,000.

Junior Baseball has built physical strength and courage. It has built the will to win. These qualities we need badly now. Thousands of our former Junior Baseball boys have made the supreme sacrifice in this world struggle. Other thousands are driving on to victory on land, on sea, and in the air.

We shall dedicate our 1945 program to building strong young men to complete the tasks before us—finish the war and write a lasting peace.



Louisville Slugger Trophy



1944 NON-PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CHAMPIONS—SHERMAN FIELD FLYERS (Ft. Leavenworth, Kans.), who went through 10th Annual National Semi-Pro Championship undefeated. Back row, left to right—Ned A. Tryon, Frank A. Jeka, Ray A. Johnson, George R. Burns, 1st Lt. George A. Moore (Special Service Officer), Ralph B. Rosengarten, James B. Griffin, Jr., Burl B. Storie, Marvin B. Blaine. Front row—David McDowell, bat boy; Richard G. Kamler, Ted R. Greble, Clarence V. Spratt, Frank E. Wonka, Rex Twibell, Herman A. Besse, James W. Lucas.

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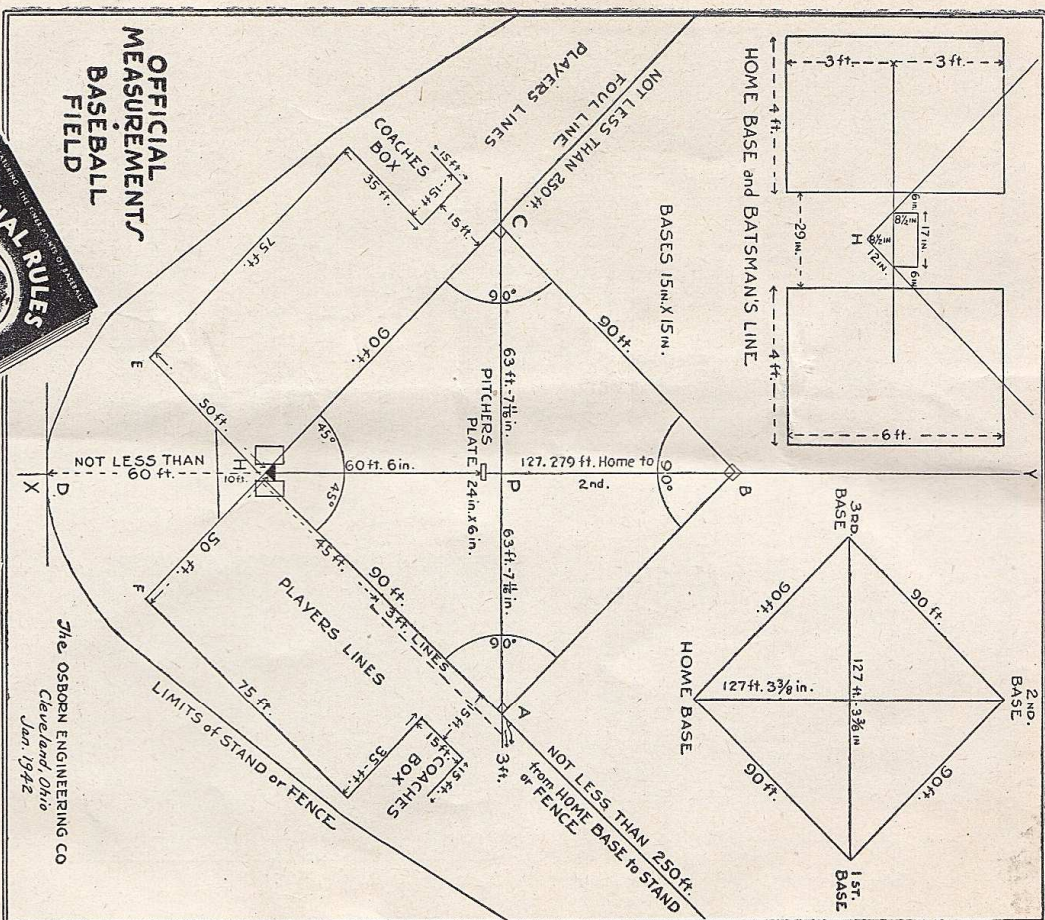


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For boys under sixteen years of age
measurements changed as follows:
Distance between bases, 82 feet;
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11 1/2 inches; same distance across
diamond from first to third; home
plate to pitcher's plate, 50 feet.

MAJOR LEAGUE PARKS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON-FENWAY PARK

Manager—Joe Cronin
(Red Sox)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 344.74 feet
Left Field Foul Line 315 feet
Center Field 420 feet
Opened May 17, 1912

CHICAGO-COMISKY PARK

Manager—Jimmy Dykes
(White Sox)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 352 feet
Left Field Foul Line 352 feet
Center Field 440 feet
Opened July 1, 1910

CLEVELAND-LEAGUE PARK

Manager—Lou Boudreau
(Indians)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 320 feet
Left Field Foul Line 320 feet
Center Field 450 feet
Opened April 21, 1910 (then called
Dunn Field)

CLEVELAND-MUNICIPAL STADIUM

Manager—Lou Boudreau
(Indians)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 320 feet
Left Field Foul Line 320 feet
Center Field 450 feet
Opened April 20, 1912 (then called
Navin Field)

DETROIT-BRIGGS STADIUM

Manager—Steve O'Neill
(Tigers)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 325 feet
Left Field Foul Line 320 feet
Center Field 420 feet
Opened April 20, 1912 (then called
Navin Field)

NEW YORK-YANKEE STADIUM

Manager—Joe McCarthy
(Yankees)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 296 feet
Left Field Foul Line 301 feet
Center Field 461 feet
Opened April 18, 1923

PHILADELPHIA-SHIBE PARK

Manager—Connie Mack
(Athletics)
Seating Capacity 13,500
Right Field Foul Line 331 feet
Left Field Foul Line 334 feet
Center Field 468 feet
Opened April 12, 1909

ST. LOUIS-SPORTSMAN'S PARK

Manager—Luke Sewell
(Browns)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 340 feet
Left Field Foul Line 351 feet
Center Field 422 feet
First game in present steel and concrete
park was played April 14, 1909. Pres-
ent site christened as Sportsman's Park
in 1875.

WASHINGTON-GRIFFITH STADIUM

Manager—Ossie Bluege
(Nationals)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 320 feet
Left Field Foul Line 320 feet
Center Field 420 feet
Opened April 12, 1911 (then called
American League Park)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BOSTON-BRAVES FIELD

Manager—Bob Coleman
(Braves)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 320 feet
Left Field Foul Line 340 feet
Center Field 370 feet
Opened August 18, 1915

BROOKLYN-EDBETS FIELD

Manager—Leo Durocher
(Dodgers)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 327 feet
Left Field Foul Line 356 feet
Center Field 400 feet
Opened April 9, 1913

CHICAGO-WRIGLEY FIELD

Manager—Charles Grimm
(Cubs)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 333 feet
Left Field Foul Line 355 feet
Center Field 400 feet
Opened April 23, 1914, by Chicago Reds,
and was known then as Weegman Park

CINCINNATI-CROSBLEY FIELD

Manager—Bill McKechnie
(Reds)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 320 feet
Left Field Foul Line 328 feet
Center Field 387 feet
Opened April 11, 1912 (then called
Redland Field)

NEW YORK-POLO GROUNDS

Manager—Mel Ott
(Giants)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 298 feet
Left Field Foul Line 400 feet
Center Field 400 feet
First game in present steel and concrete
stadium, following destruction of wood-
en stands by fire, was played June 28,
1911. Formal opening of completed
park held April 19, 1912.

PHILADELPHIA-SHIBE PARK

Manager—Fred Fitzsimmons
(Blue Jays)
Seating Capacity 13,500
Right Field Foul Line 324 feet
Left Field Foul Line 324 feet
Center Field 468 feet
Opened April 12, 1909. Blue Jays have
been using Shibe Park, home of Ath-
letes, for their home games since July
4, 1938.

PITTSBURGH-FOREES FIELD

Manager—Frank Frisch
(Pirates)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 300 feet
Left Field Foul Line 325 feet
Center Field 387 feet
Opened June 30, 1909

ST. LOUIS-SPORTSMAN'S PARK

Manager—Billy Southworth
(Cardinals)
Seating Capacity 13,000
Right Field Foul Line 340 feet
Left Field Foul Line 351 feet
Center Field 422 feet
First game in present steel and concrete
park was played April 14, 1909. Pres-
ent site christened as Sportsman's Park
in 1875. Occupied by Cardinals since
their permanent home on July 1, 1920.

Famous Slugger

Quiz



These are tough questions even for those familiar with baseball records. If, after reading through the 1945 Famous Slugger Year Book, you answer half of them correctly, your memory is good. Answers on page 63.

1. Name the famous centerfielder who for 19 consecutive seasons played in 100 or more games per season.
2. How many different players are credited with more than 3000 Major League hits?
3. What Major Leaguer was the last (most recent) to hit over .400 in a single season?
4. Who batted highest in all organized baseball in 1944?
5. Twice since 1900 have Major League players batted higher than .400 in a season and yet failed to win their leagues' batting championships. Who were they?
6. (a) Give within 5 the greatest number of hits made in a season by an American League batting champion. (b) By a National League champion.
7. Who has the highest lifetime Major League batting percentage?
8. Who batted highest in the 1944 World Series?
9. Who drove in what proved to be the actual winning run of the 1944 World Series?
10. Give within 5 ounces the weight of the heaviest Louisville Slugger ever used by Babe Ruth.
11. In what year did Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs?
12. Which American or National League player is credited with the highest batting average for a single season?
13. Only one player has won batting championships in both the American and National leagues. Who was he?
14. Of the players credited with lifetime Major League batting averages of over .300, which one played the longest in the Majors?
15. Who has hit the greatest number of home runs in National League competition?
16. The first of all Louisville Sluggers was turned for the famous old time slugger whose picture appears on this page. Give his name.

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BASEBALL'S HALL OF FAME

Grover Cleveland Alexander	William H. Keeler
Adrian Constantine Anson	Napoleon LaJoie
Morgan G. Bulkeley	Kenesaw Mountain Landis
Alexander Joy Cartwright	Christopher Mathewson
Henry Chadwick	Cornelius McGillicuddy (Connie Mack)
Tyrus Raymond Cobb	John J. McGraw
Edward Trowbridge Collins	Charles G. Radbourne
Charles Albert Comiskey	George Herman Ruth
William Arthur Cummings	George Harold Sisler
William B. Ewing	Albert Goodwill Spalding
Henry Louis Gehrig	Tristram E. Speaker
Rogers Hornsby	John Peter Wagner
Byron Bancroft Johnson	George Wright
Walter Perry Johnson	Denton True Young

Louisville Slugger Souvenir

For this favorite souvenir—a (16-inch) miniature LOUISVILLE SLUGGER bearing the autograph of any of the famous Major League batters listed below—send 20 cents in stamps.



Babe Ruth	Joe DiMaggio	Leon Gehrig	Mel Ott
Ted Williams	Bob Doerr	Stan Musial	Joe Gordon
Lou Boudreau	Joe Medwick	Bill Dickey	Charley Keller

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ANSWERS TO FAMOUS SLUGGER QUIZ

(See Page 62)

1. Tris Speaker (Page 12) . . . 2. Seven (Page 23) . . . 3. Ted Williams in 1941 (Page 23) . . . 4. Rip Collins (Page 45) . . . 5. Joe Jackson hit .408 in 1911. Ty Cobb hit .401 in 1922 (Compare Pages 2 and 23) . . . 6. (a) 267 by George Sisler in 1920 (Page 2) (b) Lefty O'Doul (1929) and Bill Terry (1930) share N. L. record of 254 (Page 4) . . . 7. Ty Cobb—367 (Page 22) . . . 8. George McQuinn of Browns (Page 43) . . . 9. Emil Verban of Cardinals (Page 37) . . . 10. 54 ounces (Page 19) . . . 11. 1927 (Page 20) . . . 12. Hugh Duffy of National League—438 in 1894 (Page 52) . . . 13. Ed Delahanty. American League championship won with .376 in 1902 (Page 2) . . . 14. Eddie Collins, 25 seasons (Page 22) . . . 15. Mel Ott, 489 (Page 20) . . . 16. Pete Browning (Page 14).

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